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AWARDS BLOW FOR TOWN'S £13m SITES

TWO major projects with a combined value of over £13 million have been judged unworthy of Oswestry Civic Society's main building awards for 2012.

The society announced this week that neither the town's £10.4million new leisure complex or the £2.7million entrance to Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital warranted major honours in the annual award scheme.

They chose to not present the society's main award recognising building achievement or a highly commended prize and instead handed out commended awards to both schemes.

The Duke of Gloucester opened the brand new Oswestry Leisure Centre on December 1, with a swimming pool, badminton courts, gymnasium and dance and exercise rooms.

The centre was constructed by Shropshire Council with support from the Sports Council.

by Graham Breeze

The £2.7million entrance at Oswestry Orthopaedic is part of a wider £4.5 million site redevelopment and was constructed by local firm Paveaways and project managed by Capita Symonds in conjunction with the Hospital trust's estates department.

"This year saw a significant drop in the number of building completions, no doubt due to the state of our economy," said civic society chairman Saffron Rainey.

"The standard in the main is down, we found no project worthy of either the society's full award or a highly commended award.

"Nevertheless we are pleased that two important public buildings, namely the bold new leisure centre for Oswestry and the main entrance to the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Hospital have been completed over the past year.

Invest

"Despite the gales of austerity, there are builders, developers and businesses out there willing to invest in Oswestry."

Margaret Scott-Knight, vice chairman said: "Regretfully his year and not for the first time we have seen nothing of outstanding quality."

Wendy Farrington Chadd, chief executive of Oswestry Orthopaedic said: "We were delighted to receive a commendation at the award ceremony.

"It would have been fantastic to receive a full award.

"We recognise the criteria applied by the Civic Society may be very specific, we are, however, pleased that our development was recognised."

Commendations were also awarded to Cambrian Mews a development by Primoris on Gobowen Road and a development of three houses in Swan Lane by KITWE.

Other winners were: Pen-y-Garreg Halt – Cambrian Heritage Railways, Open Studios – Borderland Visual Arts, CROP – Cambrian Railways Orchard Project, Richmond Harvey – Estate Agents Cross Street and Upstairs Downstairs – Mr & Mrs Gliksman.

Oswestry's 10.4m leisure complex has missed out on a top award.

The £2.7m entrance at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital was also deemed unworthy.

Town shops axe festive late opening

OSWESTRY town centre businesses will not be celebrating Christmas together with a late night shopping event this year, its chamber has decided.

A lack of enthusiasm was blamed for the decision which was announced by Oswestry's Chamber of Commerce chairman Martin Anderson.

In the past the chamber has held the event on a Friday night but this year traders felt the day could clash with other towns nearby and it was suggested the event could be held on a Tuesday night instead.

But now Mr Anderson said it would not go ahead at all. "We are not going to push for late night opening," he said. "We are not going to push it as it didn't work last year and there's little enthusiasm.

"We're not going to try to push people to do it if they don't want to, if they choose to stay open then that is up to them."

He said members had instead decided to hold a dedicated day of Christmas festivities on December 15. Letters have been hand delivered to traders in the town to encourage them to take part and support the day.

Mr Anderson said some chamber members were working on plans to organise a lantern parade for the night. Chamber members are still looking at ways to boost trade during the Christmas period.

Detectives issue e-fit of suspect in attack

The e-fit picture.

DETECTIVES have issued an e-fit picture of a man believed to be responsible for a sexual assault on a young woman in Oswestry.

They are hoping the man will be recognised, providing a breakthrough to the investigation now nearly a month old. The 18-year-old woman was assaulted in a wooded area near Aston Hall Lodge on the evening of September 14.

Officers say before the incident she and the offender walked along Unicorn Road, College Road, into Shrewsbury Road and towards Mile End, before turning down a country lane near Mile End Golf Club between 7pm and 8.40pm.

Detective Inspector Mark Bellamy said: "The suspect was wearing distinctive clothing, including a Metallica T-shirt." The man is described as white, in his 20s or 30s, of stocky build and about 5ft 10in in height.

Information can also be given to the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111.

Tributes to former boss

POWYS County Council Leader David Jones has paid tribute to the council's former head of human resources Mike Moriaty, of Welshpool, who died on Tuesday after a short illness.

Mr Jones said: "Mike was a hard-working dedicated servant to local government in Powys.

"Our thoughts and sympathy are with his family at this difficult time."

Mike Moriarty worked in local government from 1983 to 2004 and was head of human resources when he left Powys County Council.

Store is to close with the loss of 23 jobs

MORE than 20 jobs will be lost in Welshpool after bosses of one of the town's large supermarkets reveal would close next month.

The Co-operative Food store in Berriew Street is due to close its doors in the town on November 28.

Town Mayor Councillor John Meredith said he was devastated to hear people would be losing their jobs.

Currently there are three full-time staff and 20 part-time staff working at the shop which has been run by the national company for about three years.

They are being offered help to try and find alternative employment or be redeployed, a store spokesman said today.

Mayor of Welshpool, Councillor John Meredith, said he was shocked.

"It will be a great blow," he said. "I hope that the employees will get reemployed in the town.

"It is a big blow to the town."

Councillor Steve Kaye, who runs his own business Multi Services Wales Ltd in the town, said he wanted to see more employment in Welshpool. said: "It is very bad news if any jobs go in the town."

The Co-op took over the building in Berriew Street in 2009. It had been a Somerfields and The White Lion Hotel stood on the grounds there.

Four hurt in two crashes

FOUR people required hospital treatment after two collisions on roads around Welshpool and Oswestry.

Three were taken to hospital by ambulance after a two-vehicle crash near Welshpool on the A483.

Meanwhile one person was taken to hospital by ambulance after they were trapped in their car in a crash in a village near Oswestry.

Firefighters and paramedics attended the incident at Moors Bank, St Martins, at 7.30am yesterday.

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Celebrations as town scoops bloom awards

by Graham Breeze

RESIDENTS in Chirk were celebrating this week after scooping two prizes at the Britain in Bloom National Awards.

Chirk won a gold award and was named a joint category winner in the urban category section in the prestigious awards scheme.

The national winners were announced at an awards night on Saturday in Guernsey, hosted by Matt Baker, presenter of BBC TV's The One Show.

Jackie Allen, chairwoman of Chirk Community Forum, said: "We're absolutely thrilled to have won the Urban Community Town category of the RHS Britain in Bloom National Finals.

"A fantastic team effort, this is an absolutely amazing achievement.

"We are lucky within our organisation that we have benefited from the skills that members of the community have been happy to provide to enable us to achieve these tremendous results.

"I am really proud of everyone who has taken part – it really is a dream come true and we hope that even more people will come to our town now, to experience what a few can achieve to make Chirk a happy place to live, work and visit."

Chairman of the RHS Britain in Bloom UK Judging Panel, Roger Burnett, said: "We had the privilege and pleasure of visiting the most environmentally aware communities in Britain and meeting the wonderful people responsible for them.

"The best thing about being a judge is meeting the volunteers.

"They're hard-working and resilient – whatever's thrown at them, whether it's a hose-pipe ban or flooding, they'll find a way around it. It's a hugely comforting thought to know that there are over 200,000 Britain in Bloom volunteers across the UK."

Quakers to hold open meeting at town hall

MONTGOMERY Quakers are holding an open meeting for worship in Montgomery Town Hall, on October 21 at 10.30am.

The county was once rich in Quaker history and at one time in the 17th century it was thought that the majority of the population were Quakers.

But hundreds emigrated to Pennsylvania to escape persecution and whole villages were depopulated.

Today Quakers meet regularly in Montgomery and Meifod and all are welcome.

A spokesman said: "All our meetings are open but sometimes it is intimidating for people to come into something for the first time. Because our meeting for worship is very often largely silent this can also be difficult for the newcomer. So we thought it worth holding a meeting in the Town Hall, with the door open, for people to come in and sit down with us for 10 minutes or as long as they wish."

The meeting will finish at 11.30am followed by coffee and biscuits and the chance to chat.

New responders call for help

Welshpool First Responders Lorraine Lloyd and Chloe Lloyd with Ianto Guy who qualified last year.

CHANCES of surviving a serious health crisis in Welshpool have just dramatically improved, but Welshpool's newly qualified First Responders need your help to start.

Lorraine Lloyd and Chloe Lloyd have just qualified as First Responders and will be on standby 24/7 to reach you in a crisis should an ambulance need longer than eight minutes to arrive.

The girls are raring to go but their equipment costs more than £2,000 each and they have launched some fundraising activities so they can get started.

"It's a really good cause helping to save lives of people in the Welshpool area," said Lorraine Lloyd. "Basically if an ambulance will take longer than eight minutes to arrive on scene, they send the closest one of us to respond and with something like a heart attack for example every minute counts."

They have decided to organise a triathlon at the Flash this weekend to kickstart their fundraising and are inviting people to come down and give it a go.

"As you can imagine time is not on our side, so we would really appreciate any help the town and area can give us," said Lorraine.

"Please call me on 07882486388 for more information on the triathlon or if you would like to donate.

"Welshpool Doctors provide a lifesaving service by responding to car crashes and serious incidents and have been credited with saving dozens of lives. Hopefully with the new First Responders on call, more people will live through potentially life threatening drama."

Charity's opening doors to the public

A WELSHPOOL-based charity which supports people with mental health issues and affected by social isolation and exclusion is due to hold an open day tomorrow (Friday).

Ponthafren Association is opening its doors to the public who are invited to see the work that goes on in the centre.

The day also features a bric-a-brac sale including a wide range of second hand CDs, DVDs, books and much more.

Cakes and refreshments will also be provided with all proceeds going towards the work of the charity.

The centre will be open to the public from 10.30am to 2.30pm and can be found at 42 Broad Street opposite the Town Hall and down the passageway adjacent to the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust office.

For details, call centre facilitator Kevin Hodgetts on 01938 552770

Places available in top marathon

FIFTEEN places are up for grabs in next year's London Marathon to raise funds for Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Charity co-ordinator Gwilym Owen said: "As we pay a substantial amount to ensure we have entrants via the Golden Bond scheme it is important that we fill all the places."

Anyone interested should contact Mr Owen on (01691) 404661 or 07711 178180.

Sewing classes

DRESSMAKING classes will be taking place in Llanymynech Village Hall from 7pm-9pm on Wednesdays. It started this week and costs £45. For more details call (01691) 839286.

Robber is sought for attack at village PO

A VILLAGE postmaster was hit on the head when a robber broke into his shop.

A raider forced a door at Trefonen Post Office, near Oswestry, at 7.30am on Monday, pushing postmaster Peter Sayles aside before stealing an undisclosed amount of cash before running away.

Police have issued a description of the young robber and have appealed for help in tracing him. Mr Sayles, who has been at Trefonen Post Office for the last six years, said he was unable to comment.

Despite bruising and a cut above his right eye, Mr Sayles was continuing to serve customers yesterday.

Police spokesman Richard Ewels said the incident happened at 7.30am on Monday.

"A man broke into the premises by forcing a door," he said. "The offender assaulted the owner who suffered a cut to his head and took off with an unknown amount of money."

Police are appealing to anyone who saw anything or anyone suspicious in the area to telephone 101.

The robber was about 25 years old, 5ft 10ins tall, stocky, with shaven brown hair and a long full face.

Villagers can enjoy garden

VILLAGERS near Oswestry will be given their own garden thanks to two grants.

Land near the allotments in Chirk Bank will be transformed after the project was given £1,000 by Awards For All.

People behind the project had already collected £500.

Councillor Angela Bright said: "The community garden is for the whole of the community and anyone passing can go and sit and have a look."

It's D-Day as area's first academy school opens doors

NORTH Shropshire's first academy school opens its doors to prospective pupils and their families tonight.

The annual open evening at Oswestry's Marches School, the county's largest secondary school, will be held from 4.30pm to 7.30pm.

Visitors will have the opportunity to meet the headteacher Sarah Longville as well as curriculum staff and current students and hear about plans to have a sixth form from next year. The headteacher's address will set the scene at the school, which was given an 'outstanding' rating by inspectors, and ensure parents and carers gain an overview of the exceptional opportunities the school offers.

School spokeswoman Amy Gregory said: "Bursting with interactive activities including treasure hunts, explosive experiments, football tournaments and cooking demonstrations, the evening will be an opportunity to take a look around the exceptional facilities, learn more about the outstanding support students receive and discover what makes the Year 7 Curriculum, 'Growing Minds', ground-breaking.

"Staff will also be available to answer questions on the new sixth form, opening in September 2013, and provide visitors with further details on the plans currently being developed.

"Advice and guidance will be available throughout the evening and students will be on hand to help visitors find their way around the school.

"For parents and carers that are unable to attend the open evening, the school is arranging individual visits and tours. To make an appointment please contact the school on (01691) 664400."

The school announced last month it was planning to open a sixth form, providing post 16 education.

The move followed the awarding of academy status to the school, the first in the Shropshire Council area, in August last year.

The main focus of the school sixth form will be offering academic qualifications such as A-Levels and will also be looking closely into the delivery of the International Baccalaureate.

The sixth form will, initially, only be accessible to Marches School students.

by Graham Breeze

ID card seizure rules stopping illegal drinkers

UNDERAGE drinkers are finding it harder to buy alcohol in Oswestry, thanks to strict rules being set down by police, publicans and traders over fake ID.

Police have reported a drop in the number of fake ID cards seized in the town since The Oswestry Community Alcohol Partnership (Os-CAP) was launched in January last year.

Os-Cap was set up in the town to try and reduce the number of youngsters drinking before they were legal. It has carried out a number of initiatives, including street patrols, school visits and diversionary tactics. When it formed its research showed the best way to tackle underage drinking was to make alcohol harder to buy through ID checks.

Constable Mark Moth, for Oswestry West, said:"Young people are realising that using fake cards or misusing identity documents is not an option in Oswestry.

"If they use identity documents belonging to older friends and siblings, such as driving licences or passports, they run the risk of the card being seized at licensed premises and returned to the issuing authority. Applying for a new document will incur a fee.

"We are seeing the benefits of the card seizure scheme. There has been a drop in the number of seized cards since the scheme was originally introduced and I have been assured by the licensed trade that they remain diligent in their checks."

Councillor Vince Hunt, chair of Os-CAP, said: "I am really pleased the card seizure scheme is having such a positive impact."

Library's tasty topic

IT will be time to listen to food at a library near Oswestry later this month.

Gobowen Library will host a free daytime event on October 23 from 11am. It is called Time To Listen and will see library staff reading from fiction, non-fiction and poetry on cakes and puddings.Call (01691) 653388.

Pharmacy's delivery pledge

Ready to go out on a delivery was pharmacy manager Jill Leonard.

A PHARMACIST has launched a new delivery service in a bid to prevent pensioners putting themselves at risk of injury collecting medicines during the winter months.

John Gentle and his staff at The Pharmacy@Caxton in Oswestry have a van which will be used to deliver medicines to people's homes and also to collect prescriptions from other surgeries before delivering them.

Mr Gentle said pensioners or vulnerable people who relied on their medicines often put their health at risk by failing to collect their prescriptions during bad weather while others who did try to collect them during snow and freezing conditions put themselves at risk of falling. Mr Gentle said he expected the service to be a great success.

"This new delivery service now means people who are meant to be housebound or are infirm will have their prescriptions delivered to their door.

"We are an independent pharmacy and are open to all patients from across the Oswestry area so are also offering to collect prescriptions from other surgeries, processing them before delivering them.

To order a prescription, collection from another surgery or to request a delivery call the pharmacy on (01691) 653033.

NEWS in brief

Gallery is hosting valuation day for Rotary club fund

AN ANTIQUES and collectable valuation day will be held in a gallery in Oswestry.

The Willow Gallery, in Willow Street, is hosting the event on Saturday from 10.30am-3.30pm .

Jeremy Lamond from BBC Bargain Hunt will be at the event along with Andrew Beeston from Fine Art Senior Valuer and William Lacy from Specialist Painting Valuer.

Items that can be valued on the day include furniture, ceramics, artwork, toys, textiles, silver, books, sporting and equestrian pieces.

It has been organised by the Rotary Club of Oswestry in association with Halls Valuers and Auctioneers.

It costs £2 for each item valued or £5 for three items. All money raised will go to Rotary charities and good causes.

Dance sessions on for villagers

THE next dance session in a village near Welshpool will be held tomorrow (Friday).

Arddleen will host a sequence and ballroom dance between 8pm and 11.30pm at Arddleen Community Centre. Tickets cost £3.50. To book or for more information call (01938) 590468.

Traditional stalls for autumn fair

AN autumn fair will be held at Viscount Bridgeman Court in Queen Elizabeth Drive, Oswestry, on October 20.

It starts at 2pm and stalls include a tombola, pickles and jams, bric-a-brac and a raffle. Admission is free and refreshments cost 20p.

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NEWS 01691 668094

Business bucks trend by expanding premises

A BUSINESS in Oswestry is bucking the trend by doubling in size and creating more employment in the town.

Upstairs Downstairs, in Leg Street, held a special event on Saturday to celebrate its larger business and let customers view the expanded premises. The specialist cook shop was also celebrating 25 years in business.

Yossi Gliksman, owner of the business, said the move has allowed the company to split tableware and cookery sales into separate sections and pave the way to opening a cookery demonstration area next month.

by Graham Breeze

The expansion has also meant two new jobs were created for the town.

Mr Gliksman said lots of people visited on Saturday and a local baker made more than 200 little cakes for people to eat. It was an amazing day," he said. "Really fantastic.

"We were overwhelmed by the support of local customers.

"It's also our 25th anniversary because we opened in September in 1987, Saturday was a double celebration."

He said the new part of the shop is about half the size again of his original premises.

Space

Taking on more space was 'a massive gamble', he said, but was something that had to done.

"Expanding in a time of recession is not because business is booming," he said. "We expanded because we want it to boom and are doing everything in our power to help do that. We are not doing this just for us, we are really passionate about our town.

"We would like to encourage footfall in Oswestry. We want them to come in and see the smaller independent shops before going elsewhere."

He added he was grateful for the support of customers and said the expansion would not have been possible without them.

The premises has also had its electrics changed to be on low energy consumption.

With some cakes specially made by local business Beth bakes for the open day was Charlotte Langley, one of the newer members of the shop staff. *Picture: Peter Flemmich.*

Meeting date for talks over health service

PROPOSALS for health services in Powys are to be discussed in Llanfyllin this month.

Powys Teaching Health Board and Montgomeryshire Community Health Council are hosting the public meeting in Llanfyllin to discuss the proposals for health services published by Hywel Dda and Betsi Cadwaladr health boards.

The Llanfyllin meeting will take place in Cain Valley Hotel at 6.30pm on October 18. Representatives from Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board will be available to present and answer questions.

People wishing to attend are urged to call 0800 678 5297.

All members of the public are welcome to attend the event, although numbers will be limited on a first-come basis.

Vegetable garden is created for young

VOLUNTEERS have been working hard to create a new vegetable garden for youngsters to grow and harvest plants in Oswestry.

Osyteers, a volunteer group from Oswestry, spent hours over the weekend helping to create the garden for pupils at Meadows Primary School, in Harlech Road.

The volunteers were helped by teachers and their partners. Together they completed the groundwork for the new vegetable garden and also put down a concrete base for a shed. A greenhouse base was completed, ground was cleared, and eight beds for the eight school classes were installed. The vegetable patches are now ready for filling with compost and gravelled paths.

Mike Lade, spokesman for the Osyteers, said: "This has proved to be one of our longer projects but has been very enjoyable.

"The pupils of The Meadows School now have a wonderful asset to enjoy for many years.

"Who knows, it may just open a path for the next Alan Titchmarsh."

The vegetable garden will be used to teach children where their food comes from and how to grow their plants from seed. They will learn how to nurture plants.

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NEWS 01691 668094

TV impressionist is welcome guest at school fundraiser

TV impressionist and comedian Alistair McGowan visited Shropshire to support a black tie dinner dance at Moreton Hall School near Oswestry.

He visited the school on Friday night to help launch the Moreton Hall Centenary Appeal which is to raise funds to build a £2 million science centre and a medical science faculty at the school.

Mr McGowan agreed to go along because he is a close friend of one of the governors at the public school for girls.

by Graham Breeze

Katy Tanner, foundation director and the organiser of the event, said: "Friday night saw the launch of Moreton Halls' Centenary Appeal which aims to raise funds for an innovative science centre and medical faculty.

"It is our aim to contribute to the UK's future at the forefront of science by inspiring and educating young scientists. This centre will allow us to do this both for the students at Moreton Hall and those at surrounding schools who will be invited to take advantage of these facilities.

"Alistair McGowan very kindly helped us to launch this appeal with an outrageously funny performance to a rapt audience of 200 parents, Old Moretonians and friends of the school. It was a truly fabulous evening which has kick-started our appeal with many generous donations."

The school will be celebrating its centenary in 2013 and the new faculty will help the school to expand its scientific horizons and prepare future young scientists.

It is also planned to use it as a regional centre for local state schools.

The Moreton Hall Centenary Appeal will also raise funds for junior and senior centenary scholarships to help gifted scientists join the school.

Mr McGowan, who has just finished hosting 'You Cannot Be Serious' on ITV, has worked in every branch of show-business over the last 20 years.

Left to right, Jessie Jones, Old Moretonian, now working for Harris Allday Stockbrokers, Alistair McGowan, actress and singer Charlotte Page, Moreton Hall student Isobel Mason, Principal Jonathan Forster and Paula Forster.

Meeting called on homes bid

A MEETING has been called by villagers after revised plans for a housing development near a World Heritage Site were revealed.

The plans would see seven homes built in Chirk Bank, near Oswestry – three of which would be affordable housing.

The village is in the buffer zone of the World Heritage Site which covers the Llangollen Canal and the Thomas Telford-built Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

Previous plans for homes at the site sparked objections from residents and now a meeting of Chirk Bank Community Group has been set up for today at 7pm at the village's Methodist Church School Room to discuss the new scheme.

Angela Bright, meeting organiser, said: "We are calling an emergency meeting to discuss the application. We were worried about any building in Chirk Bank."

Shropshire Council hopes to determine the bid by November 22.

Coffee morning aids charity

A COFFEE morning held in Oswestry has helped to raise hundreds of pounds for charity.

Fundraisers held the event in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support's World's Biggest Coffee Morning at The Wynnstay Hotel.

It raised £361.16 and a further £82 was taken on the Christmas card stall. A spokesman for the event said: "On behalf of the members of the Macmillan Cancer Support group in Oswestry we would like to give thanks to everyone for their help and support given to make it such a successful and enjoyable morning."

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NEWS in brief

Dahlicious Day aids charity fund

YOUNGSTERS have raised hundreds of pounds at their recent charity events.

Pupils at Kinnerley Primary School held a Dahlicious Dress Up Day where they and their teachers dressed up as characters from Roald Dahl books.

The event took place to help raise funds for the Roald Dahl Marvellous Children's Charity, which helps very sick children. They raised £100 on the day.

Children also raised more than £300 at their Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning which they held on the same day.

School's Friends plan trip to city

PEOPLE in Shropshire are invited to take a coach trip to Birmingham.

The coach will leave the Punch Bowl in West Felton on November 18 at 9.30am. It will return to the village, near Oswestry, at 6pm.

To book a place call (01691) 611811. It will cost £8.50 a seat. Tickets are reserved on receipt of payment.

The trip has been organised by The Friends of West Felton School.

Talk on Red Cross

THE work of the British Red Cross will be in the spotlight at Llanyblodwel Mothers Union group's meeting at 2pm today at Brook House.

Action to revitalise tourism industry up for discussion

A KEY action plan to revitalise the tourism industry in Oswestry was due to be presented to councillors for approval last night (Wednesday).

The Oswestry Tourism Action Plan is aimed at strengthening the multi-million pound tourism industry in the area to bring an economic boost over the next five years.

Councillors were being given the chance to discuss the document at their amenities committee meeting after consultants from 360 Tourism Consulting were asked to put together an action plan for Oswestry.

by Graham Breeze

The report says the consultants have looked at how Oswestry can attract more visitors.

It says: "It combines proposals to improve the tourism product – what visitors come to see and do, the promotion – how the area is marketed to visitors and how they can find out more information, and how local businesses and organisations can better work together to achieve this.

"The plan is intended to steer a way forward over the next five years.

"It is designed to be a working document that can be added to if new opportunities for development are identified.

"Tourism is an important element of the local economy in Oswestry and is a mechanism for regeneration in rural areas and market towns."

It adds: "In 2005, the latest detailed figures, 2.2 million visitors came to the northern Shropshire area, mainly as two million day visitors (91 per cent) and 0.2 million (nine per cent) overnighters. They spent one million nights in the area.

"In total £115 million was spent by visitors; £73 million (63 per cent) by day visitors and £42 million (37 per cent) by overnight visitors.

"The spend figure for the Oswestry area is estimated to be £43 million."

Among the proposals suggested in the action plan is improved partnership working and marketing.

Police hunt for bogus callers

MEN posing as water board officials talked their way into the homes of elderly people during three incidents in Shropshire on the same day. Police believe the same people are responsible for all three incidents.

The first was in College Road, Oswestry, at around 10.45am on Wednesday, when a man talked his way into a couple's home.

They became suspicious and asked him to go. He was seen leaving the scene with two or three other men in a silver or grey car, possibly a Vauxhall Vectra or Insignia.

Then in Belle Vue Gardens, Shrewsbury, between 11.40am and midday the suspect asked a woman to turn the kitchen taps on and off while he chatted to her. After he left she found another person had searched the house while she was distracted. Nothing is thought to have been stolen.

The same men went to another woman's house in Sutton Way. Again one of them pretended to be a water official. The victim became suspicious and told them to go.

Family homeless after blaze

The scene of the fire in Gwarthlow.

A FARMHOUSE has been destroyed after a blaze broke out in the chimney and roof while the occupants were downstairs.

The fire ripped through the house in Gwarthlow, which lies on the Shropshire/Mid Wales border near Montgomery, causing the roof to collapse and leaving just the shell of the building standing.

The family which lives at the house has now been forced to stay in a camper van on the farmyard.

The blaze broke out at about 10pm on Saturday and firefighters worked through the night to douse the flames.

They stayed at the property for most of Sunday trying to make the remnants of the building safe. The road passing the house was closed after chimney gables were deemed unsafe.

It is understood more than 20 firefighters were at the scene tackling the blaze. No-one was injured.

A spokeswoman for Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service confirmed fire crews worked through the night.

Business bosses get tips at event

BUSINESS people from across the country were attending a free day-long event in Oswestry today, Thursday.

Shropshire Chamber of Commerce organised the Oswestry Business Expo at the Lion Quays Resort.

The event was give businesses a chance to promote their companies and network with others.

John Donnelly, a former Midland Entrepreneur of the Year, kicked off the day at a breakfast networking meeting . Mr Donnelly had a professional football career with Aston Villa and Norwich City and also started his own travel company.

During the day a number of seminars giving valuable advice and guidance were scheduled.

Jools Payne, of PR firm The Jools Payne Partnership, started the day with an interactive discussion about reputation management within a business environment and five top tips to enhance and protect a firm's corporate identity.

Jan Minihane, of The Net Advantage, talked about social media and explained some of the ways businesses can use Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook effectively.

Chris Page, of Page Communication, rounded off the day by hosting an interactive workshop on public speaking.

Christmas & New Year 2012

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Join us to celebrate New Year's Eve in the Brewery Suite with 'Afterdark'
Doors open at 7 pm with disco playing until 1pm.
This is a ticket only event and tickets are available from Reception at £10 per person.
Limited numbers are available for this event so please get your tickets early to avoid disappointment

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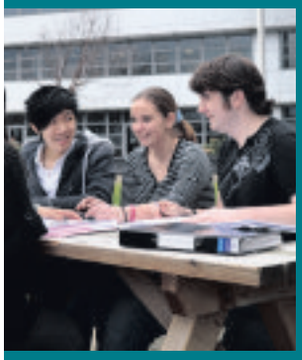

Saturday 13th October 2012
Shipley Campus
10.30am - 2.30pm

Thursday 18th October 2012
Aspire Centre
3.30pm - 6.00pm

Thursday 18th October 2012
Oswestry Campus
5.30pm - 8.00pm

Saturday 20th October 2012
Walford Campus
10.00am - 2.00pm

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Thinking caps are needed for town

TRADERS are being asked to put on their thinking caps on to help the Oswestry 20:20 initiative.

The project is run by a group of people from the town including representatives from local authorities, education and business.

The purpose of the scheme is to help shape a vision for the future of Oswestry.

Representatives from the group visited Oswestry Chamber of Commerce last week to see if business people were interested in offering their ideas too.

Town mayor, Councillor Martin Bennett, is expected to attend the chamber's November meeting to discuss the topic further.

Martin Anderson, chamber chairman, said: "We are still asking people for ideas. Anybody wishing to suggest things via the chamber needs to get their thinking caps on between now and the November meeting."

He said people could contact the chamber with ideas via its website at *http://oswestrychamberofcommerce.wordpress.com/*

The Oswestry 20:20 also has a website at *www.oswestry2020.co.uk* and is also on Facebook and Twitter.

A spokesperson for Oswestry 20:20 said the town had many skills and talents that could benefit from the opportunity.

Hope for new housing plan

PLANS for social housing in a picturesque Shropshire village have been revealed after a previous proposal sparked objections from the community.

The fresh plans would see seven homes built in the canal side village of Chirk Bank near Oswestry – three of which would be classed as affordable housing.

The village is in the buffer zone of a World Heritage Site which covers the Llangollen Canal and the famous Thomas Telford-built Pontcysyllte aqueduct.

A planning statement lodged by agents in support of the bid said the revised plans would appease objectors.

by Iain St John

The statement said a plan was launched two years ago for the proposed site to be developed for the construction of eight semi-detached affordable social rented homes and five affordable self build properties.

But the statement said: "There was opposition to this scheme locally.

"Some concerns were raised about various planning issues affecting the site – highway access, impact on the World Heritage Site buffer zone, impact on the amenity of the adjoining properties, the future spread of development to the remainder of the site and the setting of a precedent for further development elsewhere."

Villagers also believed that there was no evidence of need for social rented housing in Chirk Bank.

The statement said the landowner revealed new plans this year for the site and consulted Weston Rhyn Parish Council.

It added: "The parish council's response to the revised proposals for the site was positive. It confirmed its preference for the majority of properties on the site to be affordable dwellings for local people should a planning application be submitted in due course. The applicant has taken on board the comments of the parish council in preparing the application proposals."

Shropshire Council hopes to determine the bid by November 22.

Debate urged on drone wars

THE use of unmanned drones, by the military over Afghanistan and Pakistan was the subject of the talk given to members of a Shropshire peace group.

Chris Cole, of Drone Wars UK, gave the talk to a well-attended meeting organised by Oswestry Coalition for Peace.

In Drone Wars: Afghanistan, Pakistan and beyond, Mr Cole explained how over the past few years an increasing number of drones had been used to carry out armed attacks around the globe resulting in the deaths of many innocent civilians.

Spokesman Derek Williams said: "Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Yemen and Somalia had, he said, all been subjected to drone strikes by US or British drones controlled from many thousands of miles away."

He said Mr Cole stressed the need for accountability and public debate in what remains 'an escalating and – in the UK at least – a largely secretive means of waging war'.

Coffee morning aids funds

THE Shropshire Cat Rescue ran a coffee morning at the Memorial Hall in Oswestry. There were a variety of stalls representing different charities. Raising funds for the Blind Dog Rescue UK were Catherine Morton and Wendy Dodd.

Business start-up group is launched

UNEMPLOYED youngsters in Oswestry are being urged to take charge of their futures and attend a new business start up club in the town.

Start Up Club was launched on Tuesday at The Guildhall on Bailey Head.

It is a Young Britain initiative for those aged between 18 and 24 years old. The focus of the group is to help them start self-employed enterprises using their skills and talents.

It wants to help create a new generation of business people in the town.

Oswestry Town Council and Shropshire Council have helped fund the club so that young people in the area can get free places at the motivational sessions.

Fay Easton, Start Up Britain champion, said: "This is a great opportunity for young people to discover how they could set up their own businesses."

The events are free but registration is vital at www.startuposwestry.eventbrite.co.uk

Meeting date

PEOPLE in Oswestry are invited to a meeting at the Friends' Meeting House on October 23. The Oswestry Group of Action by Christians Against Torture meets from 2.15pm in Oak Street.

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On Sunday 21st October Montgomery Quakers will be holding their Meeting for Worship in Montgomery Town Hall. The door will be open and you're invited to drop in and sit down with us for as short or as long as you like.

A Quaker Meeting may be largely a silent gathering, perhaps with a reading. During the Meeting anyone may stand, if prompted by God or by the spirit, and offer a short item of ministry which may help others in their silent worship.

We meet from 10.30am to 11.30am and Meeting will be followed by tea, coffee and biscuits and the chance to chat and ask questions if you wish.

If you have ever wondered what a Quaker Meeting is like, or what Quakers are about, come and see. All welcome. More information from 01686 650326 or just turn up.

COMMENT & FEATURE

email: news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk 01691 668090

Group needs to take a fresh look at judging criteria

SO £10.4 million on a new leisure centre and £2.7 million on a state of the art entrance to one of the country's most famous hospitals don't warrant an award.

Well not when Oswestry Civic Society is doing the judging it seems.

This week the society announced that neither project warranted winning their main building award for 2012 or even a highly commended honour when the winners of the annual contest were revealed.

Wendy Farrington Chadd, the hospital trust's chief executive, was gracious in accepting the group's damnation – I wouldn't have been and I know how proud she is of the hospital's new feature.

The hospital's new entrance matches anything I have seen across the country and

that includes the magnificent new Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

It is high tech, stunningly spacious and welcoming to both patients and visitors but not good enough for the society's major award or a highly commended it seems.

And likewise despite spending £10.4 million Shropshire Council has not done enough to please the civic group's judges with the fantastic new leisure complex.

The group may need to take a fresh look at the judging criteria if its main awards are ever to be presented again.

□□□□□□□□

REVELATIONS this week about the sexual behaviour of TV star Jimmy Savile are a surprise to very few.

It was common knowledge that there was always something a little seedy about the cigar smoking star. But he remained untouchable despite many of his bosses clearly aware of the mounting allegations being made against him.

Jimmy clearly created his own smokescreen with his famous brand of cigars and it is a crying shame that he is not still alive to face up to the allegations. It's no mistake that I have not related to him as Sir Jimmy because at the very least I think that title should be stripped away from him.

One or two people in high places at the BBC are shifting uneasily in their seats at the moment and so they should.

□□□□□□□□

ALL that is bad about, not just the UK but the world press, was evident in the little town of Machynlleth last week as reporters and cameramen homed in on the tragic story of missing five-year-old April Jones.

All of them were seeking an exclusive line and the majority were willing to listen to just about anyone who was willing to speak.

The majority of course are now packed up and gone leaving the local press to cover their own patch and face up to the abuse of local residents, who in many cases have had their personal space infringed for a week.

The national boys and girls do the local press no favours at all with their brash approach and intrusive questioning.

Karin breaks her silence over Savile abuse claims

by Iain St John

THE contrast could not be greater. In the 1970s Shropshire woman Karin Ward was a vulnerable and damaged child, barely in her teens, and already a victim of terrible abuse at the hands of her family.

At the same time, Jimmy Savile was one of TV's biggest names, instantly recognisable for his trademark cigar and jangling gold chains, a British cultural icon.

Regular visits by Savile, the BBC's 'golden boy', to the approved school in Surrey where Karin Ward and other 'intelligent, emotionally disturbed' girls were kept locked away was seen by most as another example of the radio DJ and TV presenter's endless charitable work.

But there was a darker side to his visits.

According to 54-year-old Karin, and many of the other girls who were forced to call Duncroft Approved School home, the visits by Savile were something entirely different – a way of feeding his perverted sexual interest in young girls.

And speaking at her home in the village of St Martins near Oswestry, Karin says what happened during her troubled childhood has stayed with her all her life, leading to 'disastrous' relationships, three failed marriages and seven children, four of whom she does not see.

Karin, who moved to Shropshire 18 years ago, said: "The abuse actually started when I lived in Norfolk.

"I started trying to tell the authorities what was happening. I was not believed and was sent to Garfield House children's home in Norfolk."

It was while living at Garfield House when Karin met Jimmy Savile for the first time.

She said: "We had all been taken away to Jersey for a two-week camping holiday.

"I don't remember him doing anything to me. What I do remember is being raped twice during that holiday. The first was a fighter and then the second man was a Frenchman.

Jimmy Savile was one of TV's biggest names in the 1970s.

Karin Ward, from St Martins, near Oswestry.

"Looking back it seemed that the home had shared us out with abusers on the island."

Karin was moved to Duncroft Approved School when she was about 12 or 13 years old.

She said: "It might sound strange because we were locked up at the school and rarely went out but I actually felt more safe at Duncroft than I did anywhere else before in my life. The staff were strict but there was no abuse, nobody did anything awful to you.

"Then Jimmy Savile came on the scene."

Karin said the star would regularly take the young girls out on trips in his car as well as arrange for them to come to see the filming of his Saturday night variety show Clunk Click at BBC Television Centre in London.

She said: "We thought it was fantastic.

"Jimmy Savile was a huge TV star. He would come with gifts, cigarettes, which were the currency of the time."

Karin alleged: "Girls would go with him in his car and do sexual favours for him. I went with him in his car, many of the girls did.

"We all knew what was going on. We would laugh among ourselves and say 'oh, he is a dirty old man'."

The sexual abuse allegedly continued during trips to London to BBC Television Centre. Karin said: "We would go to his dressing room, meet celebrities, the alcohol was flowing. There would be about eight or 10 Duncroft girls in the dressing room, however many fitted in the minibus. Somebody would be on Jimmy Savile's lap, he would have had his hand up her jumper, up her skirt."

Among the celebrities was Gary Glitter, who in later years was convicted of downloading child pornography in Britain and abusing children in Vietnam.

Karin said: "On one occasion Gary Glitter was in the dressing room. He was having sex with an underage girl, one of the Duncroft girls, behind a curtain in an alcove of the dressing room. On a different occasion another celebrity, who I will not name, tried to put his hand up my jumper while we were in Jimmy Savile's dressing room.

"I shouted at him to stop. In front of everyone he shouted at me, humiliated me."

Karin left local authority care when she was 17 and embarked on what she candidly calls a 'disastrous personal life with all the wrong kind of men'.

Karin said she broke her silence on the abuse after she suffered a breakdown. A psychologist suggested she should write down her experiences to help the healing process.

Her online work was read by BBC Newsnight staff who last year were researching allegations surrounding Jimmy Savile and Karin agreed to be interviewed for the programme. She said she was ' angry' to be told the investigation had been ditched by the BBC. Karin then agreed to speak to ITV who were putting together a documentary about Savile.

Advertisement feature

NO HEADLINE

Q: My elderly aunt died 2 years ago leaving a large amount of money. Her Will appointed her only son as the executor, and she left her estate to her son, my two brothers and me in equal shares. Her son arranged and paid for the funeral and obtained a grant of probate but has done nothing else and he won't give us any information regarding our share of the inheritance. What can we do?

A: Because your cousin has obtained a grant of probate, he has accepted his role as executor of your aunt's estate, and therefore can only be removed from his position by the Court.

Your cousin has a duty to keep accounts and records relating to the administration of the estate and beneficiaries have a right to inspect these. If he refuses or fails to respond, you are entitled to apply to the Court for an order compelling your cousin to provide an Inventory and Account supported by a sworn Affidavit in respect of the administration of the estate. This should provide you with details of the estate and you would then be in a position to consider whether further steps are necessary.

If the Inventory and Account is unsatisfactory (or not provided), and you are still experiencing difficulty in obtaining any information from your cousin, you could make an application to the Court to have him removed as executor, pursuant to section 50 of the Administration of Justice Act 1985. As he is a sole executor, the Court should be asked to appoint a substitute executor so as to to prevent the estate from being left unrepresented. Substitutes can be lay people or professionals such as solicitors.

As this is a complex area of law, you should obtain specialist legal advice before proceeding.

Further information relating to this question is available from Annest Jones, a Solicitor Advocate with GHP Legal. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194, visit www.ghplegal.co.uk or attend one of our FREE legal diagnostic clinics every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation

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LETTERS & NEWS

01691 668094

Film plan is closer as screen arrives

PLANS to bring a digital cinema to Oswestry showing blockbuster films are a step closer after the first piece of equipment arrived.

Kinokultre, based in Oswestry, is keen to bring the facility to the Attfield Theatre, in the Guildhall on Bailey Head, and has revealed it has received the delivery of a new screen.

The screen is just one part of the digital DCI projection system which has been ordered to help give residents a better cinema experience. The rest of the equipment is still on order.

Kinokulture can use the screen with its older equipment, and bosses hope the new hi-tech equipment will arrive in time to be used in the launch of their winter season of film.

Kinokulture, based in Oswestry, was awarded more than £45,000 from the Council's Market Town Revitalisation programme for the ambitious plans to bring top movies to the area.

Bosses had hoped to bring the facility to Oswestry in May but paperwork saw plans delayed. It was then hoped for the facility to be up and running in time for the summer holidays but again administration issues have resulted in equipment still not arriving.

Equipment for the venture is coming to Oswestry from Canada.

Antiques on sale at hall

AN antiques event will take place in a village near Oswestry.

It will take place on November 13 at Whittington Senior Citizen's Hall from 2.30pm.

Jeremy Lamond, of Halls of Shrewsbury, will be at the venue to value antiques.

It costs £5 to include tea, sandwiches and cake.

A spokesman for the event said: "Look in your cupboards and attics, search in your garage and shed and see if you can find an antique worth thousands or just something interesting."

Whist drive

A CHARITY whist drive will be taking place in a village near Oswestry. It will be held in West Felton Village hall on October 19 at 7.30pm and is in aid of St Michael's and St Chad's Church.

Is your MP worthy of your vote?

NO wonder the wind industry cheerfully boasts that wind farms are the best thing since sliced bread, and it is not surprising they can give landowners excessive remuneration for allowing wind generators on their land.

This despicable industry is being shovelled loads of money, coupled with access to a seemingly bottomless pit of cash by the Government.

It is absolutely astonishing to realise wind farm operators were recently paid £34 million to switch wind generators off during periods of high wind – what utter madness to pay out millions of pounds to wind farms for not producing any energy – I bet landowners add to their signatures, 'please excuse the shaky handwriting' when signing a contract, for if this access to easy money does not get them excited, I guess nothing will.

But as with everything in life, at the end of the day, someone has to pay, and it is you dear reader who 'pays the piper' via your energy bill. Therefore it truly begs the question of why MPs, of all parties, are not vociferously calling for the wind subsidy to be scrapped?

These honourable people are supposed to represent and protect our interests, guard us against unscrupulous scams.

So ask yourself, what is your particular MP doing about this disgraceful affair, and is the MP in question worthy of your valued vote?

DAVE HASKELL
Pembs

TIMBERS at Whittington level crossing were being renewed in February, 1969. The work, which meant the temporary closure of the road, was done by members of the Coleham railway depot in Shrewsbury.

Tolls policy will hit town

I WONDER if the Government has fully thought through the consequences of their proposal to bring in road tolls based on mileage travelled.

One consequence of such a policy would be that touring holidays around Britain will probably decline, with ramifications for the economy.

Another consequence, of even greater significance, would be that more people would want to live near to their place of work, in order to avoid large costs of commuting.

This raises the question of whether we should be building houses on a large scale in Oswestry and similar towns, or if we should be focusing on building near towns and cities where there are the greatest number of jobs and demand for labour.

J MCCARTHY
Oswestry

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Readers' Letters, Oswestry Chronicle, Ketley, Telford TF1 5HU

FAX
01952 254605

E-MAIL
letters@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

We paid the price for EU membership

WHY are we still in the European Union? We joined in 1973 handing over our North Sea fishing grounds as part of the entry fee – none of the other 26 member countries paid such a price.

On the instructions of our European 'partners' we abandoned trading with the Commonwealth and turned our backs on the many nations who helped us through World War Two.

In January, we will have been a member for 40 years. Our economy is on its knees, our infrastructure years out of date and our NHS, education and justice systems crippled by creeping European regulations replacing British laws. And for this we pay £50 million plus to Brussels every day.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

5p is small price to pay

THE 5p charge on carrier bags in Wales has resulted in a 96 per cent reduction in their use.

Why can't we do that in England?

It's a small price to pay to avoid the pollution of our countryside and seas.

Successive governments should be ashamed that only the Welsh have the guts to put a charge on the use of these bags.

RON JONES
Oswestry

Great success

OSWESTRY School Sixth Formers hosted a fundraising Macmillan Coffee Morning on September 28, in the School's Peter Humphrey Centre.

The event was a great success and a total of £192.01 was raised.

SUZANNE M G BELLIS
Oswestry School

Children win prizes for skills in reading

YOUNGSTERS from an Oswestry school have won prizes for their reading skills.

Pupils at Moreton Hall School recently took part in the Sarah Parkes Competition 2012.

There were 38 girls from the school taking part and they read from the Common Book of Prayer.

The competition, which was created by Dr Giles Parkes in memory of his late daughter Sarah, was judged by Colonel Frank Hewitt.

Colonel Hewitt is the chairman of the Lichfield Diocese Prayer Book Society.

He said: "It is incredible that we have such a high overall standard.

"It's a great achievement both for the school and for the girls as individuals."

This year's junior winner was Morgan Darcy Rees-Deacon from Year Eight and the runner up was Antonia Nicholls, also from Year Eight.

The senior winner was Charlotte Ford from Year Nine with the runner up being Roisin Ni Chulachain from Year 13.

School has an open day

OUR Lady and St Oswald's Catholic Primary School in Upper Brook Street, Oswestry will hold an open day for parents with children who will be starting school in September 2013 on October 23.

Veronica McLardie, headteacher at the school said: "We hope as many parents as possible will take the opportunity to visit us.

"They will be able to visit the reception class, take a look at our facilities and meet key members of the team."

There will be two tours of the school, at 11am and 2pm.

Parents should call the school on (01691) 652849 to confirm a place, or book an alternative.

Diet club date

THE Oswestry Leisure Centre will play host to a new, Wednesday evening Weight-Watchers' group. Meetings will be held from 5.30pm every Wednesday. The day time meetings will remain at the Parish Church Centre at 10 am and noon.

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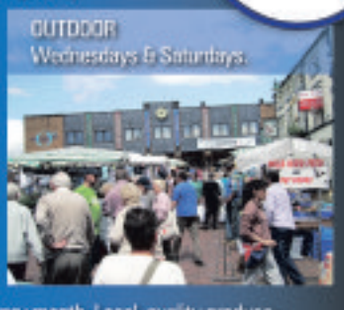

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NEWS in brief

Tickets on sale for 60s and 70s party

TICKETS are on sale for the 1960s and 70s party night at Welshpool Town Hall on Saturday, November 10.

Promoted by Rainbow Records of Welshpool Market Hal there will be four hours of music from the 60s and 70s on offer.

Live music is provided by The Heather Bebb Band featuring Billy Spencer and party music is provided by DJ and Compere Mike Breeze.

Groups of 10 or more people are invited to buy special party tickets at £5 each, or you can buy tickets separately at £10 each from Rainbow Records in Welshpool Market Hall and Ego Games of Broad Street, Newtown.

Doors open at 7pm. Call 07806 51411

League open night hailed a success

OFFICIALS from the Montgomeryshire Airgun League have heralded their open night as a huge success.

Residents were invited to 'give it a go' at the Welshpool Social Club and officials have said it was very well supported.

"There was a great turnout of all ages ranging from 9 to 50-plus.

"The League has been running for a number of years and is keen to promote and encourage these new shooters," said a league statement.

Female balloon pilots at the helm for castle event

BALLOONS filled the skies over Powis Castle last weekend with Saturday's flights of fancy event with a feminine twist.

For all the balloons that lifted off from the grounds of the National Trust castle were piloted by women.

The event was organised by Dr Allie Dunnington, who herself pilots balloons and also organises the women's balloon events.

Balloons lifted off from the castle and soared over the countryside on the mid Wales, Shropshire border. Dr Dunnington said: "We had a great response from everybody.

by Sue Austin

"We were so lucky with the weather and the whole event, I can't believe what a wonderful day it was."

Alison Dyas from Powis Castle said: "Few people know that only six per cent of fliers are women. That's not only balloonists but also planes and helicopters. Dr Dunnington, is trying to improve that."

Alison said: "The weather was perfect last weekend and it was quite a magical sight. We are also having a similar evening on Saturday with smaller hopper balloons from 3.30pm. Visitors are welcome to come along and watch - the gardens do close at 4.30pm but they can view from courtyard."

Last Saturday also saw the castle stage its new Producers' Day celebrating the best of local food, drink and craft.

"The Powis Castle courtyard shop offered a range of local products along with more traditional National trust gifts, bringing together some of their local producers and crafts people.

"Jayne Gore and Sorrel Sevier demonstrated their jewellery making, and Jo Wardle carved some of his wooden products.

Visitors can also browse in the recently-extended second hand book shop.

"Books are from 50p to £3 and we now have a seating area. We've raised £2,682 already this year under the helm of wonder volunteer Christine Gillam of Meifod. "If you have any spare books please call us on (01938) 551929 put them outside."

Police issue plea after thefts

POLICE are hunting three women who were dressed in traditional Islamic clothing when they stole from two businesses.

Despite happening on September 28, police have only now put out an appeal for help following the two thefts in the same afternoon in Llanrhaeadr and Welshpool.

The drama unfolded in the pictueresque village first at about 3.30pm when two of the women made off with charity boxes when a shop assistant was distracted.

They appeared only two hours later in Welshpool when two women made off with an iPhone from behind the counter in Purebeauty when the member of staff was again distracted.

Police believe three different women, of Asian descent were involved.

The gang is suspected of using a maroon coloured Ford Galaxy.

If you have information call Welshpool Police on 101.

Company shortlisted for award

Cambrian Training Company's managing director Arwyn Watkins, left, with butchery apprentices Aled Jones, Rebecca Jones and Richard Dewis.

A BUSINESS with a clear mission to be the best work-based learning provider in Wales has been shortlisted for a national award.

Cambrian Training Company, in Welshpool, is one of 28 finalists in nine categories of the Apprenticeship Awards Cymru, organised by the Welsh Government in partnership with the National Training Federation for Wales (NTfW).

The Apprenticeship Awards Cymru recognise the outstanding achievements of learners, employers and providers involved in the delivery of apprenticeships in Wales.

The winners will be announced at a ceremony at Venue Cymru, Llandudno, on October 24, where the winners of the National Training Awards for Wales will also be recognised. Cambrian Training Company has 36 employees and offices in Welshpool, Holyhead, Aberaeron and Brecon.

Date for fireworks display at ground

WELSHPOOL will once again be hosting a fireworks extravaganza on Bonfire Night.

The 2012 Welshpool Firework Display will be held again at Maesydre Recreation Ground on Saturday November 3.

The gates will be open to the public at 6pm but organisers are reminding people that there is no vehicular access to the site. Entry is via the canal path only.

A council statement said: "The whole community has been involved in providing this year's display. Town council staff have worked closely with the football and rugby clubs who have arranged the use of the floodlights and other facilities."

There will be a bouncy castle, hot drinks stall and Rikki Lloyd will be providing a hog roast and burgers. Entry will again be free but residents are welcome to make a donation towards the cost of the display.

Bright welcome

A BRIGHT welcome awaits visitors to Welshpool Hospital thanks to the work of a team of volunteers over the weekend. The League of Friends at Welshpool Hospital and The Derwen Garden Centre worked together to spruce up the main entrance.

The picturesque town where Wales meets the world will be the culinary capital of the UK for a whole weekend. There to greet people at Hamper Llangollen 2012 on Saturday and Sunday, October 20 and 21, will be a trio of top chefs who have signed up as the stars of the popular food festival.

Organisers are confident the event in the Royal Pavilion at the home of the International Musical Eisteddfod is on course to be bigger and better this year.

Graham Tinsley, the star of ITV's Taste the Nation and a former captain of the Welsh Culinary Team, will be joined in the show kitchen by S4C favourite Dudley Newberry.

Completing the hat-trick will be the ever popular Dai Chef, returning to the event after an absence of several years.

LLANGOLLEN FOOD FESTIVAL. Pictured is Rob Price from Cadwyn Clwyd with Colin Loughlin and Gwyn Davies.

One of the main driving forces behind the reborn festival is businessman Colin Loughlin, chairman of the committee that runs the event, supported by the rural development agency, Cadwyn Clwyd.

*Mr Loughlin said: **"We have a wonderful array of fantastic food producers clustered in the area and the festival is the perfect shop window for them. A food festival is so much better and more interesting than going to the supermarket."***

Cadwyn Clwyd's contribution came via the Rural Development Fund for Wales 2007-2013, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

*Robert Price, Cadwyn Clwyd's agri-food project officer, said: **"I can't imagine that any other food festival in the UK has a more beautiful setting."***

Hamper Llangollen will be open between 10am and 5pm on both days with an entry fee of £5, FREE for under 16s, parking is available tickets are available on the door.

WELSHPOOL 01691 668094

Public given chance to offer views about BBC

Best snaps in calendar

THE Welshpool calendar is available at the Tourist Information Centre in the town. Members of the public submitted pictures for the calendar to the town council and the resulting winning entries depicting scenes around the town are now proudly displayed in the calendar. Taking a look were Wendy Lewis and Elaine Edwards from the Tourist Information Centre.

by Graham Breeze

WELSHPOOL people will have a chance later this month to tell the BBC what it should be doing better.

BBC Audience Council Wales, the eyes and ears in Wales of the BBC Trust, will be in town to hear what people think about the corporation and its services.

The informal meeting will be held at Welshpool High School on October 19 at 7pm.

BBC National Trustee for Wales, Elan Closs Stephens, who chairs Audience Council Wales, said: "It is important that people have as many easy ways as possible to tell us their views so that we can tell the trust what people think the BBC can do better.

Travels

"That's why the council regularly travels to different parts of Wales to hold meetings.

"And it's not just about listening but also about getting things done.

"Following the event in Welshpool the council will report to the trust on what people told us and the trust will make sure that the BBC acts to address concerns which they become aware of.

"While face to face meetings with the public are important anyone anywhere in Wales can contact the council at any time with their views about the BBC by going to the council's website to tell us what they think.

"We welcome people's opinions about anything that the BBC does."

Audience Council Wales came into being under the present Royal Charter in 2007 and is responsible for making sure the BBC listens to what people in Wales think about programming and services.

A report on the meeting held in Montgomeryshire will appear on the Audience Council website shortly after the meeting.

The meeting will also include a light supper.

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NEWS in brief

U3A group learn about the Quakers

THE next meeting of the Welshpool and District U3A group will be held on November 6 at Church House, from 10.30am.

On October 2, Helen Porter gave a talk about the Quakers.

A group spokesman said: "In a fascinating and informative talk she told us of the history of the Quaker movement, noting that during its development in this county, Montgomeryshire, had a very strong following.

"Today there are almost a dozen groups around Mid Wales."

Visit *www.welshpoolanddistrictu3a.org.uk*

Rosemary Squires to play in town

CURRENTLY on her 60th anniversary tour Rosemary Squires will play a matinee concert at Welshpool Town Hall tomorrow, Friday.

Tickets are £6 with concessions at £4 and can be purchased in advance from Welshpool Jewellers, Flaunt It in Cumberland Place, Welshpool, or the Tourist Information Centre Mile End, Oswestry.

The event starts at 2pm with doors opening at 1.30pm.

Chainsaws theft

TWO chainsaws have been stolen from a car in the Wern area. The car was broken into between 8pm on September 24 and 10.15am on September 25.

Company celebrates being named among top in country

A WELSHPOOL company is celebrating being named one of the fastest growing firms in the country.

Welshpool-based Invertek Drive is at 32nd place in this year's Fast Growth 50 Awards which celebrates the 50 fastest growing businesses in Wales.

The firm has jumped up 17 places since last year's survey, having significantly increased turnover in the last financial year.

Invertek Drives Ltd designs, manufactures and markets electronic variable speed drives for controlling electric motors.

by Graham Breeze

Its state of the art UK headquarters houses specialist facilities for research and development, manufacturing and global marketing and its products are sold in more than 65 countries worldwide.

Sales and marketing director Rhydian Welson said: "We're delighted to have achieved such a high ranking in this year's Fast Growth 50 Awards.

"We've always been proud of our Welsh heritage and our ranking in these respected awards is testimony to the fact that we're up there amongst some of the highest performing businesses in the country."

The independently owned company was established in 1998 by the current directors and has experienced an average 28 per cent year on year growth fuelled by global demand – approximately 95 per cent of its output is destined for export markets.

Invertek Drives employs more than 130 people at its Welshpool headquarters and produced more than 100,000 drives last year. The company is gearing up for the largest trade show in the industry's calendar, SPS, taking place in Nuremburg in November. Mr Welson added: "Invertek has invested a significant amount, not only in product development and facilities, but also in marketing and after-sales support.

"This financial commitment has spearheaded the considerable growth the company experienced last year, and we're confident the upward trend is set to continue into the next financial year."

Invertek Drives Sales and Marketing Director Rhydian Welson with Fast Growth 50 certificate.

Free parking a welcome gift

FREE parking in Welshpool over the Christmas period is a welcome gift to traders, officials say.

Powys County Council has agreed to have free parking in all of its pay and display car parks from 10am on December 8 for three key festive weekends.

The concessions will also be rolled out for two working weeks ahead of Christmas and will finish on the evening of December 24.

The project will be funded from the cabinet members non acceptance of their special salaries in full.

Councillor Francesca Jump, of Welshpool Gungrog Ward, said: "I applaud the cabinet members for their decision and choosing to fund this measure. This is great news for Welshpool and for Powys as a whole as it will vitalise our town centres.

"Traders have been crying out for free parking and introducing it at the busiest time of year will help to provide a much-needed increase in sales."

Farmers push for dredging of rivers

AFTER the wettest summer on record Montgomeryshire farmers have hit out at the Environment Agency Wales for not dredging local rivers and propose it reviews its actions and practices in terms of river and estuary management and maintenance.

After last week's first torrential rain of the autumn, roads in the Welshpool area were closed as rivers overflowed and farmers believe the lack of dredging of the River Severn carries some of the blame.

Edward Chapman, Montgomeryshire NFU Cymru county chairman, whose farmland has suffered severely due to the River Severn flooding its banks on numerous occasions, said: "All the rivers used to be dredged but why don't they do it now? I expect as with many other things it's down to money.

"I believe that the numerous occasions of excessive rainfall and consequent flooding experienced this year and indeed in recent years could be much better absorbed naturally by our rivers and estuaries if they were regularly maintained.

"Farmers regularly clean out their own field drainage ditches as part of good management and practice to aid water flow – the same principle should apply to our major water ways."

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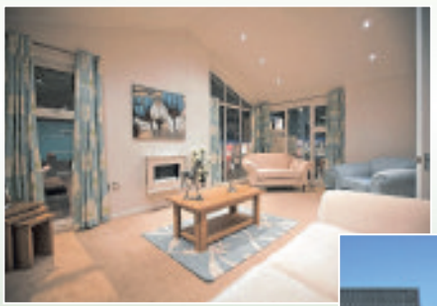

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NEWS

01691 668094

Students saddle up and ride to glory

STUDENTS at Moreton Hall Girls School near Oswestry have been enjoying sporting success.

Talented horse-riders at the school have qualified for the championships at the NSEA Inter Schools Qualifiers.

Bridget Tate riding Donny came second in the Novice Dressage Class scoring 70 per cent to qualify for the championships in Buckinghamshire later this year.

Bridget is already the NSEA country dressage champion for Shropshire.

In the 70cm show jumping class, Imogen Marmont, Molly Bennett and Louisa Hunter all rode double clear rounds and came second to qualify for the championships.

In the 90cm show jumping class, Josie Dajczak, Imogen Marmont and Alice Davies-Cooke rode double clear rounds to qualify for the championships.

Meanwhile cross country runner Kitty Peel and fellow students from Moreton have done well at the English Schools Regional Cross Country Championships at Adams Grammar on October 1. Kitty was second in the U15 team race, in which the Moreton team came third overall.

U13 team member Lily Mainwaring was fourth and Millie Home seventh. Overall the team came second.

Concerns raised over effect of pylons on road network

CAMPAIGNERS have warned that plans by National Grid to build a power line from Mid Wales to Shropshire could cause further congestion and danger to an accident blackspot.

It comes as residents of Pant and Llanymynech welcomed support from Shropshire Council for improvements to the A483 in Pant.

Members of the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee agreed to give £1,500 to support the installation of speed warning signs in the village.

A report to the committee said the cash would give long term support to the operation of electronic vehicle activated signs which warn drivers they are entering a 30mph zone.

by Graham Breeze

The sign at the northern end has been installed and is working and the sign at the southern end is in place, with Shropshire Council waiting for the power company to connect an electricity supply.

Campaigners have welcomed the support from the council for the vehicle-activated signs but said they would continue their calls for a bypass around the villages.

And they warned that controversial plans by National Grid to build a power line from Mid Wales to Lower Frankton would cause further traffic danger.

National Grid wants to build the line to take energy from Mid Wales windfarms to the national electricity network.

Dilys Gaskill, chairman of Pant and Llanymynech Parish Council, said: "Slowing down traffic is vital especially now that the villages will be hit twice if the power line plans go through.

"First we will have all the equipment for the windfarms and turbines coming through,

"And we will also have all the equipment for the pylons coming through as well, adding to the congestion."

Llanymynech councillor Arthur Walpole said he was delighted funding had been found for the signs but said the pressure would continue for a bypass to be built.

Castle setting for wedding

DANCERS, musicians, horses and traditionally dressed guests transformed Powis Castle into a part of India for a wedding ceremony.

Powis Castle and gardens, in Welshpool, were transformed when 350 guests of Powys bride Gauri Verma and her husband-to-be Jai Seth turned up for their big Indian wedding, a colourful event which was steeped in history and culture.

The bride arrived at Powis Castle wearing an intricate Punjabi wedding gown.

After the service in the ballroom and Clive Museum, Gauri, a former head girl at Shrewsbury High School, and Seth moved down to the Italianate terraces for celebratory drinks and Indian cuisine.

The guests then met on the croquet lawn to see the groom arrive on a white mare, surrounded by drums and dancing groomsmen bedecked in traditional Punjabi silks and jewels. A traditional Mandap fire ceremony was held in a ceremonial tent.

Award for market manager

OSWESTRY market manager David Clough was awarded his Institute of Place Management diploma in market administration, by the National Association of British Market Authority, at a recent conference at Harrogate. The Institute of Place Management supports people committed to developing, managing and making places better. From left, David Clough and Oswestry mayor Martin Bennett.

NEWS in brief

Tourism boosted by heritage site

WORK is being done to capitalise on success stories such as the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct World Heritage Site to boost tourism in general, Welsh politicians have been reassured.

Welsh First Minister Carwyn Jones was asked by North Wales member Mark Isherwood what was being done to maximise tourist opportunities.

Mr Jones said: "Tourism Partnership North Wales and the local authorities have been working on a new brand for the Wrexham, Denbighshire and Flintshire area."

Military drones on the agenda

THE USE of unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, by the military over Afghanistan and Pakistan was the subject of the talk given to members of a Shropshire peace group.

Chris Cole of Drone Wars UK gave the talk to a well-attended meeting organised by Oswestry Coalition for Peace.

For more and to sign up for a newsletter, visit *www.dronewars.net*

Coffee and chat

WEST Felton Methodist Chapel will be hosting a coffee morning from 10am-noon today. People are invited to pop in for a coffee and a chat for £1. There will also be bacon baps for £1.

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NEWS

01691 668094

Officials pleased with trial scheme

OFFICIALS say they are 'cautiously pleased' with the trial pilot scheme using Oswestry Library as the home of a one-stop shop for council services.

Shropshire Council is working alongside the public and voluntary sectors in town to create a central facility for the public services.

Some of the services brought into the library include those previously housed at Castle View.

Councillor Martin Bennett, who is the mayor of Oswestry, said there had been some positive remarks about the scheme so far.

He said: "We are still in a trial period and we will be taking another look at it and tweaking the layout.

"At the moment the main issue is the desk is some way away from the seating area, that is something to be looked at.

"We are still in the testing period. At the moment I am cautiously pleased at how it is going.

"Until we have tested the theory we won't know what is right and what is wrong."

Councillor Bennett said he had received an email from a member of the public about the change. The email said there were worries about the pilot scheme but felt if it saved the library then it was the way to go.

Group's art for care home

ARTISTS in Oswestry have been commissioned to create textile piece for a new care home being built in the town.

Fairholme Care Home, in Oswestry, has commissioned The Project Group to create the new pieces.

The new home is currently being built in Shrewsbury Road and it is expected people will move in during April next year.

Denise Morris, manager at the care home, said: "We are moving into the new home and thought it would be really nice if there was some continuation. We wanted to take memories from the old home and put it into this artwork to take with us into the new home.

by Graham Breeze

"People from The Project Group came to visit the residents and had a chat and did a bit of art work with them. They talked to them and got their memories and incorporated all of those into making a beautiful tree.

"It is a work in progress."

She said the art piece will have an oak tree on it as there is a large oak tree at the bottom of the drive of their current home.

The Project Group has worked on numerous commissions within Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, the Wirral and London.

Previous commissions have been created for West Felton Village Hall and the Memorial Hall in Oswestry.

The Project Group provides a creative environment for its members who are in touch with mental health services.

It aims to help provide an environment in which individuals can flourish, make decisions and take up opportunities to gain the self-belief to move forward.

When working on commissions, members are involved in the process from the start and get involved in the design, planning and the making of the final piece.

For more information about the project group visit *www.theprojectgroup.co.uk*

Fairholme Care Home is run by Coverage Care Services Ltd which is a Shropshire-based not for profit company.

From left are project co-rdinator Jo Davis, Kay Marsland, Jan Kirk, Olive Conde, Lyn Lewis, studio co-ordinator Sylvia Earthy and programme co-ordinator Gabi Hampson. *Picture: Peter Flemmich*

Vow on use of lottery cash

THE cost of consultation over how to spent £1 million of lottery funding on three villages near Oswestry is not eating into the main pot of money, the local coordinator has stressed.

The Big Local Fund granted the £1 million to St Martins, Gobowen and Weston Rhyn two years ago to spend on improving facilities for the community.

Despite consultations with many members of the community, no decision has yet been made on how the money will be spent.

New co-ordinator for the project, David Boyce, stressed that the work he was carrying out over the next six months was funded separately from the main £1 million allocation by the Big Local Trust.

"It is an essential part of the development of our programme. It is not reducing the main fund available," he said.

Between now and March Mr Boyce said more public consultation would be taking place.

Work set to start on college upgrade

WORK is about to start on the first phase of a £100,000 upgrade to art facilities at Walford & North Shropshire College's Oswestry Campus.

Contracts have been let for external works to the art wing, which will involve replacement of the windows and wall panels during October and November.

Following the external improvements, a major internal refurbishment is planned for spring 2013 to create a large multi-purpose textiles workshop along with improvements to the college's specialist photography and ceramics facilities.

Steve Wright, Head of Art is delighted to see investment in the improved facilities. He said: "Art has always been one of the college's most important specialisms and it is fantastic to be getting this upgrade to our facilities.

"The new textiles workshop will give us a much bigger, more flexible space to match the standard of our main art studio, which was completely refurbished four years ago"

The overall investment will come from a government grants matched from the college's own capital budget. The internal fit-out will start in spring 2013.

The college will be holding its next open day at the Oswestry Campus on October 18.

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HALLOWEEN

Spooktacular family fun to mark Halloween

Advertisement feature

THERE are spooky goings-on all across the Shropshire/Wales borders to celebrate Halloween at the end of the month.

At Erddig Hall there will be ghouls and ghosts and hideous trails.

Give your little terrors a real treat this Halloween at Erddig's 'spooktacular' craft workshops and fancy dress parade.

There's even a ghostly trail to explore, where children can discover creepy clues along the way.

Mini-Harrys and Hermiones will adore creating their own magical broomstick, making willow wands and listening to a scary story or two from Hogwart's very own friendly giant Hagrid.

And kids can get up close to live owls and all manner of creepy creatures including spiders and scorpions.

Steeped in history, this National Trust property is the perfect spot for some traditional Halloween fun, and little horrors dressed in Halloween costumes will get free entry.

This youngster is getting in the spirit of Halloween at Park Hall Country Farm at Oswestry.

There's a Halloween Witch Walk at the RSPB Lake Vyrnwy Visitor Centre on October 31.

This year there will be two walks, one for younger children and another, slightly longer, for older, braver people. Are you brave enough to go for a walk in the woods this Halloween night?

Hot drinks and treats will be available afterwards. Fancy dress is essential.

At Whittington Castle the activities begin at noon on October 28 with spooky games, tours and visit the witch. Take your carved pumpkin for a competition and help light up the castle.

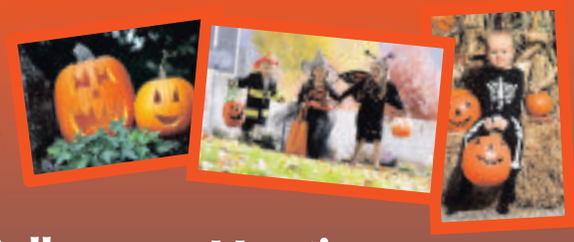
On October 31 from noon until 1.30pm there's a Halloween Holiday Club. Go dressed up for Halloween fun. Entry is £3.50. Telephone (01691) 662500 to book in.

From 6pm to 8pm you can join the torchlight procession as it winds its way to the castle. Visit the witch for your goody bag. The tearoom will be open serving Halloween treats!

At Park Hall Country Farm, near Oswestry, a new haunted house awaits with ghosts in residence until November 5 and some chilling surprises around every corner.

There are activities every day from October 26 to 30 with spooky happenings for Halloween and a fancy dress competition on October 31 at 3.30pm.

Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol National Trust



Halloween Hootings
Sunday 28th October

Join us for an exploration of this spooky festival. Besides ghouls, ghost stories and creepy trails, visitors are invited to make lanterns and stay after dark for a magical procession around the garden at 6pm.

Take care as you wander around Erddig as you never know what might be around the corner! Come along in fancy dress and see if you can frighten the staff!

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Halloween Evening - Wednesday 31st October 6-8pm. Torchlight Procession and meet the witch. £1 The Order of Fitzwarine - Halloween Event Wednesday 31st 12noon until 1.30pm. Come dressed and play games. Cost £3.50 each.

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WINTER SERVICES

The right time to ensure vehicle is ready for winter

Advertisement feature

AUTUMN is a good time of year to schedule your annual full major car service to ensure your vehicle is in the best shape possible to cope with the winter.

Winter is almost upon us, and winter driving comes with it. While safety is an important consideration all year long, there are certainly some auto maintenance jobs and safety checks that are specific to chilled air and winter driving that are a good idea to check into before we're knee deep in the season.

To be sure you don't end up a road popsicle, or even worse end up with your holiday budget on ice thanks to unexpected repairs, have a look under the bonnet to be sure things are ship shape. As with any change of season, you should go to your regular maintenance log to make sure you are up to date on the items that should be taken care of throughout the year.

The change of seasons is a great time to go through some once-a-year or twice-a-year auto maintenance tasks

Here's a checklist to help reduce the chances of problems.

Air filter: Inspect the filter for dirt and tears in the paper and replace if necessary. Typically, it's a good idea to do this twice a year.

Anti-freeze: In the winter anti-freeze prevents freezing, which would overheat the engine as it would stop the flow of the coolant. Make sure you use the correct concentration.

Check your battery: Check your battery for corrosion and make sure the terminals are clean and dry.

Inspect your brakes: Check your brakes and brake fluid twice a year to make sure everything is in order. If your car has an anti-lock braking system (ABS) keep an eye on your dashboard indicator.

Check your headlights: Make sure they are free from damage and they are clean.

Check your engine oil: You can check your oil level and condition by removing the dipstick. If the oil looks black then it is time to do an oil change.

Screenwash checks: Always ensure your washer container is topped up to the specified amount with windscreen washer fluid in winter.

Inspect your tyres: With the hazards of black ice, snow and poor visibility in winter, it's essential to make sure your tyres are in good condition. Remember to check the spare too.

Check your windscreen: If you have any chips or cracks, it's essential that you have these repaired straight away.

Windshield wipers: Wipers are essential in clearing the view through your windscreen, particularly in winter when grit and salt is thrown from the road onto your windscreen.

Make sure your vehicle is ready for the winter ahead.

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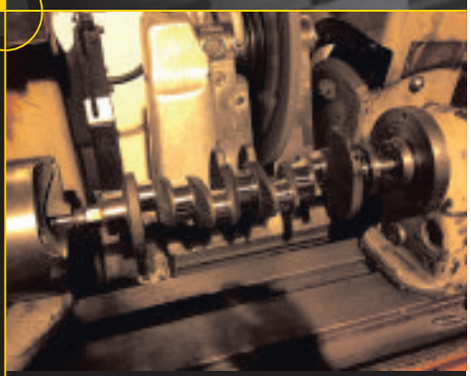

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WINTER SERVICES

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Tom Southerton tyre fitting at Eagles Tyres in Whittington.

Advertisement feature

THERE'S a free winter vehicle check on offer at Eagle Tyres on Whittington Business Park.

Eagle Tyres was launched 10 years ago by Paul Williams and is now well established at Unit 6 Whittington Business Park where the business has operated for the last two years.

The company already has an extensive customer base, servicing and repairing vehicles for commercial and agricultural clients and is now looking towards further expansion into the car market.

The company has experienced technicians, capable of servicing and repairing all makes of vehicle.

Now Paul and his team are offering free winter checks for motorists to make sure your car starts on those cold winter mornings.

"We also stock and fit winter tyres which can give you up to 50 per cent more grip during the winter months," said Paul.

"Customers couldn't believe the difference when they purchased their winter tyres last year and many have had them refitted ready for this winter."

Paul pointed out that a good set of winter tyres could last for up to three or four years.

The company will also fit tyres which have been purchased on the internet.

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NEWS in brief

Poppy Appeal to gain from service

A FESTIVAL of remembrance will be held in Oswestry to raise cash for charity.

The Oswestry branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding the event on October 27 from 7pm at St Oswald's Parish Church.

During the evening there will be music from the Porthywaen Silver Band and the Guilsfield Singers. Tickets cost £5 and will go towards the Poppy Appeal.

A spokesman for the event, said: "Demand for the welfare work fund by the Poppy Appeal is greater than ever. For every soldier killed in Afghanistan another three are badly wounded, many of whom will need support for the rest of their lives."

Tickets are available from the parish office or ring David Doggett on (01691) 652902.

Church will host harvest festival

A CHURCH on the Shropshire/Welsh border will be holding a harvest event tomorrow, Friday.

Christchurch Rhydycroesau will be hosting Harvest Thanksgiving from 7pm.

This will be followed by a supper in the village hall at 8.15pm.

Tickets cost £8 or £4 for those under 12 years old.

They are available from church members.

World-renowned waterfowl breeder to sell up and retire

A MAN from the Oswestry area, who runs one of the largest waterfowl breeds in the UK is to retire after more than 30 years.

Graham Hicks of the Hicks Waterfowl World in Selattyn, who has decided it's time to retire, is said to be one of the few fanciers left in waterfowl world who would carry a show team of birds to major events around the country.

Andy Cawhray, of Chicken Street in Whittington, said Mr Hicks' involvement with the fancy and waterfowl breeding world will be sadly missed.

"He has set standards of waterfowl exhibiting that are recognised throughout the world resulting in him being asked to attend events throughout Europe and recently as far away as Australia," he said. "His skill and knowledge have contributed significantly to today's understanding of waterfowl through his creation of a rich vein of high quality livestock, and the significance and size of the waterfowl gene pool he has nurtured over the years is immeasurable."

by Graham Breeze

Mr Hicks said: "It's been a very difficult decision to reach and I've given it some hard thought over the last 12 months but I've finally decide it's time to retire.

"I've enjoyed many years of success on the show circuit and pioneered a number of new colours and varieties of waterfowl but the time has come for me to retire.

"I'll be holding a sale when all the birds will have passed through the moult. People will be able to come and buy my breeding stock and hopefully continue on the quality bloodlines I've built up over the years.

"It will be a sad day and no doubt there will be a few tears but rest assured I'll still have a keen interest in following the Fancy and will keep in touch with all the good friends I've made over the years."

Hicks Waterfowl Retirement Sale will take place on October 21 at Hicks Waterfowl World, Brookhouse Farm, Selattyn, with the first lot expected around 10am.

There will be more than 500 lots of livestock on auction plus a limited selection of rearing equipment.

Graham Hicks, of the Hicks Waterfowl World in Selattyn, is retiring.

16 lose jobs as golf club shuts

SIXTEEN people lost their jobs when a golf club on the Shropshire/Welsh border closed, administrators have revealed.

The closure of Chirk Golf Club near Oswestry was exclusively revealed in the Chronicle last week and described by local councillors as a blow for the area

Nigel Price, partner in the Birmingham office of corporate recovery specialist Begbies Traynor, confirmed the golf club ceased trading on September 30. He said: "All 16 members of staff have been made redundant. Attempts to sell the business as a going concern were unsuccessful.

"Members of the golf club will be informed."

Mr Price said Chirk Marina, next to the golf club, continues to trade as normal. The venue hit trouble after the heavy rain this summer saw a drop in the number of users.

It was opened in 1992 and offered membership as well as daily green fees, and had about 300 members.

Castle is stepping back to the 1930s

A PERSONALITY from the 1930s will be visiting an attraction near the border this autumn.

Chirk Castle, near Oswestry, is welcoming an actor playing the role of Gareth Gilbanks, one of the staff who worked in the East Wing during the 1920s and 1930s.

Huw Sayer will be in character in the Bow Drawing Room of Chirk Castle's East Wing until November 4.

One of the rooms in the East Wing has been restored to how it would have around 80 years ago.

Mr Sayer said: "When you visit the castle, you may find me in the Bow Room, a magnificently furnished salon which contains many works of art and fine antiques.

"This room also offers panoramic views over the castle gardens, and Wales, Shropshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and beyond.

"You will receive a very warm welcome as you relax in the sumptuous furniture and listen to the latest tunes of the 1930s. You may choose to while away the time by looking through the photograph album which contains countless photos of Lord Howard de Wald often in 'medieval' armour."

Younger visitors will be encouraged to dress up and perform to other visitors, with rehearsals in the Chapel.

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HAIRSPRAY

Salon's growth proves it is a real cut above

From left are Lisa Askey and Hayley Williams.

Advertisement feature

OSWESTRY'S newest hairdressing salon has been open for three months in Salop Road and is growing in popularity with a bulging appointments book.

Hairspray was opened by well known stylists Lisa Askey and Hayley Williams at the end of July and the business is growing in the newly fitted salon.

The partners enjoy a solid working relationship, having worked together prior to launching Hairspray and have already established a regular client base at 52b Salop Road.

Lisa has 14 years' experience in the hairdressing trade, having trained at Walford College while Hayley has been in the business for 11 years, completing her training with County Training in Shrewsbury.

The unisex salon offers the best service in beautifully designed surroundings with a team that understands client needs.

There is also a special wedding package offer available which includes a champagne reception and breakfast for the bride and bridesmaids.

Bookings are already being taken for the Christmas holiday period and customers are advised to book now to avoid disappointment. Hairspray are stockists of Tigi with a full range of products available for purchase and will be offering special Christmas packs.

Hairspray also offers a voucher service, which is ideal for a Christmas gift or that special occasion.

Lisa and Hayley want to thank all their customers, regular and new, for supporting their new venture and friends and family for helping.

The salon is open Tuesday to Saturday with late appointments on Thursdays and Fridays.

Call 01691 653821 or drop in a 52b Salop Road, Oswestry to make an appointment.

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NEWS

01691 668094

College is home to two more lecturers

A THRIVING Shropshire college has taken on more lecturers as a result of growing student numbers.

Two additional lecturers have been welcomed to Walford and North Shropshire's arts and science department at Oswestry.

Bosses say the new recruits will be a valuable addition to the college.

One of the new lecturers is Rupert Boyle, from Chelmsford in Essex.

After studying physics and astrophysics at university, Mr Boyle went straight into engineering, working for e2v, a company that deals with radar and microwave devices. Twelve years later, after working his way up to principal engineer and manager of various departments, he decided he needed a new challenge and has retrained as a teacher.

He said: "I wanted to do something worthwhile, something which allowed me to pass on my knowledge and skills to others," he said.

Maninder Padam from Coventry is the other new lecturer.

She graduated in graphic design and illustration in 2004, has taught at New College, Telford, and relocated to Shrewsbury to work at the Oswestry Campus.

She said: "I'm excited to be teaching on the new BTEC and about the opportunities this will provide."

Three Welsh football caps go up for grabs at auction

THREE Wales caps won by a 19th century footballer who played with the legendary Billy Meredith are to be sold at auction in Shrewsbury next month.

The caps, which belonged to forward Edwin James of Chirk near Oswestry, have been entered in Halls' equestrian, sporting and British rural art auction on November 21, where they are expected to fetch up to £700 each.

Entries for the auction at the Welsh Bridge saleroom in Shrewsbury close on October 21. James was capped eight times for Wales – against England and Ireland in 1892-93, Ireland, England and Scotland in 1893-94, Scotland and England in 1897-98 and against Ireland in 1898-99.

by Graham Breeze

The caps in the auction are for the seasons 1893/4, 1897/8 and 1899.

He spent his whole 20-year football career playing for Chirk, helping the club to win the Welsh Cup in 1892, 93 and 94.

He was still playing when a young Meredith, nicknamed the Welsh Wizard, made his debut for Chirk in 1892 before going on to star for Wales, Manchester City and Manchester United.

Born in 1869, James died on March 25, 1958. The caps have been entered in the auction by a descendant and William Lacey, Halls' art and sporting specialist, is expecting keen interest from collectors.

Mr Lacey is keen to hear from anyone with a collection of items suitable for the auction, which always attracts interest from collectors both within the UK and overseas. He is holding a free valuation event at Halls' headquarters at the Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury on Friday, October 19 from 10am to 1pm.

"This auction provides an ideal opportunity for people to capitalise on valuable items, to sell unwanted items and also to search through their attics and storerooms for things that they may have inherited or forgotten about," he said.

To enter items in the auction contact Mr Lacey at Halls on 01743 284777.

William Lacey of Halls with the Wales caps.

Search to find woman of year

THE hunt is on to try and find the woman of the year in Powys agriculture.

NFU Cymru, supported by the Principality Building Society, has launched the 16th Woman Farmer of the Year competition.

Officials said many farms were run in partnership and the farmer is not always a man. They said women are not only running farms but often run a separate business, go out to work to bolster the family income and juggle childcare and family life.

An NFU spokesman said previous winners have raised the profile of women in agriculture. Julie Ann Haines, IT and e-commerce director at the society, the competition's new sponsor, said: "Women make a tremendous contribution to farming."

To enter or to nominate someone contact NFU Cymru in Builth Wells for an application form on (01982) 554200, *ruth.lewis@nfu.org.uk* or write to NFU Cymru, Agriculture House, Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells, Powys, LD2 3TU.

Popular holiday site has expanded

A HOLIDAY homes company on the outskirts of Ellesmere has expanded after drawing visitors from across the UK and Europe during its first year.

Woodland Park Lodges, which includes 11 log cabins, opened 18 months ago and has now launched new Woodland Park camping huts too.

The site is owned by local businessman Robert Parker of Tedsmore Estate, who also owns the adjacent dairy farm and a portfolio of luxury hotels and self-catering venues in Northumberland, Shropshire and Powys.

Site manager Jo Evans, said they have had a lot of interest in them since they launched in August.

She said: "We already have interest from scout and guide groups in the area wanting all huts for weekends in 2013.

"They are furnished with a table, benches and bunk beds.

"Campers can bring their own airbeds, sleeping bags and equipment.

"Each hut has an outside area with fire pits for camp fires and the site can sleep a total of 25 people."

For more information contact Jo on (01691) 611 015, email *jo.evans@woodlandparklodges.co.uk* or visit the website *www.woodlandparklodges.co.uk*

Adams College, Wem

Adams College Sixth Form Centre, as part of the Thomas Adams School, was classified as "outstanding" in its last inspection report from Ofsted

The College achieves excellent examination results: average student point score over the last 3 years is the equivalent of grades B, B, B at A Level with a 99% pass rate

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Elevated stone cottage offers wonderful countryside views

A delightful detached stone cottage with superb views over the Tanat Valley has come on to the market with agents Town & Country priced at £249,950.
Haulfryn, Bala Road, stands in an elevated position on the edge of the village of Llangynog, and has been tastefully updated by the current owners.
The downstairs accommodation comprises a lounge with inglenook fireplace and logburner, bathroom, spacious kitchen/diner with beamed ceiling, fireplace, cream units and integrated appliances, and a utility with plumbing for washing machine and dishwasher.
Upstairs are two double bedrooms, one with ensuite shower room and one with a cast iron fireplace, and a wc with wash basin.
There are extensive lawned and shrubbed gardens to both the front and rear with far-reaching views over the surrounding area.
The property also boasts a good-sized driveway, garage and a useful outhouse with power and lighting.
To arrange a viewing, call Town & Country on 01691 679631 or visit www.townandcountryoswestry.com

Five-bed town house packed with character

Number 19 Bridge Street, Llanfyllin, is an attractive detached three-storey town house with many original features.
The Grade II-listed property, built in the 17th century, has come on to the market with JJ Dell with a £230,000 price tag.
The well decorated and spacious rooms include a hall, sitting room, dining room and a large kitchen, walk-in pantry and an annexe.
The first floor has five bedrooms, a bathroom and a study area.
A patio and garden are enclosed by railings and walls and there are two sheds which could be cleared to make a parking space.
For details call JJ Dell on 01691 653437 or visit the website www.jjdell.co.uk

Modern bungalow in popular border town

Offers in the region of £200,000 are being sought for this detached modern bungalow in the popular border town of Montgomery.
Lara, in Gaol Road, has a fitted kitchen with built-in cooker, dishwasher and fridge, a separate utility, rear lobby and a store room.
The spacious lounge has a tiled hearth and sliding patio doors.
The master bedroom has an ensuite, and there is a second bedroom and a bathroom.
Outside is a drive, garage and attractively landscaped gardens.
For details contact Morris, Marshall and Poole on 01938 554818 or go to www.morrismarshall.co.uk

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41 Rhoslan, Guilsfield, Welshpool

£159,950

- Spacious Semi-Detached House in cul-de-sac
- Sitting Room with multi-fuel stove. Oil C/H, D/G
- Kitchen/Dining Room. Covered side passage
- Sep W.C, Conservatory. 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Attached Garage with driveway frontage
- Spacious terraced rear

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

19 Dolafon, Penybontfawr

£126,500

- Semi detached 3 bed village house
- Lounge with open fire
- Kitchen/breakfast room and utility
- Double glazed & part oil central heating
- On-site parking, Enclosed garden to the fore
- Overlooking adjoining countryside

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

17 Maes-yr-Afon, Llanrhaeadr YM

£124,950

- Stone built 2 bed semi-detached house
- Lounge, fitted kitchen/diner, C/H, D/G
- Two bedrooms and fitted bathroom
- Rear conservatory, patio & timber deck
- Quiet cul-de-sac on edge of village
- Ideal first-time buyers property

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

Unit 14, Kinton Business Park, Nesscliffe

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For further information contact
Roger N Lunt, FRICS
Tel: 01691 679595

RICS

5 Castle Street, Oswestry

£99,950

- End Terrace Town House.
- Two bedrooms, lounge and fitted kitchen.
- Gas-fired central heating and double glazing.
- On-site parking for at least two vehicles.
- Ideal first time or investment buy.
- Enclosed rear yard and front garden area.

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7 Parc Llwyfen, Llanymynech

£118,000

- Brand New 2 Bedroom Mid Terrace House
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- With Section 106 Agreement
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1 Bed 1st Floor Flat, Elec Heating, FTE, No Pets . . . **£250.pcm**

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75 Brookfields, Weston Rhyn

£119,950

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow
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- Ideal retirement or first time buy

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Halls 1845

NEW NO CHAIN

This former Wesleyan Chapel is now a lovely family home offering two reception rooms, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom & shower room.

- 4 Bedroom
- Carport & Parking
- Private Cottage Gardens
- Hot Tub
- Oil Central Heating
- Double Glazing

Wesley Cottage, Babbinswood

Price: £230,000 Contact Shrewsbury

NEW

This detached family home is deceptively spacious, situated on an elevated position with panoramic views across the Shropshire Plain and to the Breidden Hills and Rodney's Pillar.

- 4/5 Bedrooms (2 With En-Suites)
- Oil Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- B & B Potential
- Stands In 0.23 Of An Acre
- Garage, Workshop & Parking

Skylarks, Pant

Price: £299,950 Contact Oswestry

NEW

This three bedroom 1930's semi detached family home situated in a most convenient location within walking distance to Gobowen Station and also has shops and countryside walks.

- 3 Bedrooms
- Views To Welsh Hills
- Gas Central Heating
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Character Features

Cae Glas, St Martins Road, Gobowen

Price: £137,500 Contact Ellesmere

NEW

A 15th century three bedroom detached character cottage overlooking the Penarth Valley, this property needs to be fully appreciated

- 3 Bed Detached Cottage
- Oil Central Heating
- Workshop & Barn
- Gardens
- Rural Location

Caethle, Meifod

Price: £275,000 Contact Oswestry

NEW

This DETACHED family home is ideally situated for walking enthusiasts, located centrally and close to Montgomery Canal, Offa's Dyke, Llanymynech Hill, Llynclys Common and Rodneys Pillar.

- 4 Bedrooms (Master & En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- South Facing Rear Gardens
- Detached Garage & Parking
- Village Location

Breidden View, Wern, Llanymynech

Price: £239,950 Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

A semi detached bungalow situated in a prime residential area of Oswestry

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Carport & Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing

Monkmoor Road, Oswestry

Price: £115,950 Contact Oswestry

NEW

A fine example of a traditional Georgian farmhouse set in splendid countryside in grounds of two acres with outbuildings.

- 18th Century Grade II Listed Farmhouse
- 4 Reception Rooms
- 5 Bedrooms
- Paddock & Gardens To 1.59 Acres
- Two Store Rooms

Plas Bostock Farm, Holt

Price: £585,000 Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

TRADITIONAL FARMBUILDING WITH FULL PLANNING PERMISSION FOR CONVERSION INTO TWO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN THE GROUNDS OF A HANDSOME GEORGIAN HOUSE.

- Planning Application P2009/0690 dated 14th August 2009.
- Planning Application P2008/0532 dated 14th May 2008.
- Planning Application P2008/0249 dated 7th March 2008.
- Rural Location

Plas Bostock Barns, Holt

Price: £225,000 Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

A rare opportunity to purchase a semi detached bungalow with adaptable and spacious accommodation within a short walk of Oswestry Town.

- 3/4 Bedrooms
- Detached Garage & Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Walking Distance To Town

Bridgeman Road, Oswestry

Price: £119,950 Contact Oswestry

NO CHAIN

On an elevated plot, a three bedroom semi detached family home situated in an edge of village location with views to the Breidden Hills and Rodney's Pillar to the front and Llanymynech Hill to the rear.

- 3 Bedroom Semi
- Elevated Position
- Garage & Parking
- Some Modernisation Required
- Oil Central Heating
- Edge Of Village Location

Linden Croft, Llanymynech

Price: £139,950 Contact Oswestry

An opportunity to purchase a stone/brick built COTTAGE with a DETACHED ANNEXE. This property is well worthy of viewing to appreciate the character and charm throughout, gardens and annexe.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garage & Parking
- Annexe With Open Plan Living
- Semi Rural Location

Smithy House, Penybont

Price: £250,000 Contact Oswestry

A four bedroom detached family home situated in a quiet cul de sac location in a pleasant and popular village. This property is warmed by gas fired central heating and benefits from UPVC double glazing

- 4 Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Garage & Parking
- Village Location

Yew Tree Close, Whittington

Price: £182,500 Contact Oswestry

A most well presented three bedroom family home situated in a most convenient location. Woodland and open countryside walks are a stones throw away and the A483 is 700 yards therefore ideally positioned for commuters.

- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Receptions & Conservatory
- Excellent Decorative Order
- Oil Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing

Dolgoch, Porthywaen

Price: £124,950 Contact Oswestry

NO CHAIN

Situated in a lovely village location this detached family home offers spacious and adaptable accommodation. The property sits well in its 0.25 acres plot with gardens to the front, side and rear.

- 3/4 Reception Rooms
- 3 Bed (Master Suite & Dressing Room)
- Oil Central Heating
- Garage / Workshop & Parking
- Approx 0.25 Acre Plot

Cypress Cottage, Kinnerley

Price: £330,000 Contact Oswestry

NO CHAIN

A TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM BRAND NEW detached bungalow situated in a most sought after and popular village.

- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Conservatory
- Architects Certificate
- Kitchen With High Gloss Units
- Ample Car Parking

Nobold Close, Baschurch

Price: £229,950 Contact Oswestry

A beautifully presented and most desirable detached house, set in splendid grounds whilst tucked away on the fringe of a sought after hamlet with adjoining 0.75 acre paddock with views to open farmland from the front, side and rear elevations.

- 4 Bedrooms Inc 2 Master Suites.
- 3 Reception Rooms.
- Sought After Hamlet.
- 0.75 Acre Paddock.
- Views To Open Farmland.
- Oil CH & DG.

Jasmine, Bergill Lane, Babbinswood

Price: £360,000 Contact Oswestry

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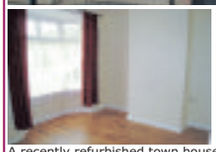
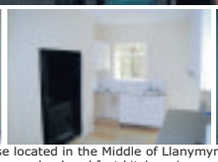
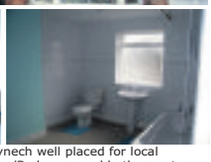
Llanymynech

NEW







A recently refurbished town house located in the Middle of Llanymynech well placed for local facilities. The property has an open plan breakfast kitchen, Lounge/Bedroom and bathroom to the 1st floor with two further bedrooms to the second floor. There is also a stairway to a useful attic. The property has gas heating and is worthy of an internal inspection.

£134,995

ELLESMERE

A two bedroom terraced property located on the edge of Ellesmere convenient to all amenities and within walking distance of the picturesque mere. Having lounge with feature brick fireplace and slate hearth and beams to ceiling. Bathroom, Kitchen and two bedrooms. The property has rear yard and private terraced garden. There is a resident□s parking permit available.

£106,500

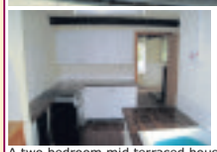
PANT

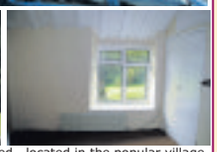
A well presented 3 bed detched bungalow situated on a good sized plot.
Having a restyled kitchen and bathroom.
Conservatory, ample parking.
The gardens are a great asset to the property front side and rear. Having a wealth of fruit trees and vegetable plots. A viewing is highly recommended.

£220,000

Llanfechain

NEW





A two bedroom mid terraced house recently having been refurbished, located in the popular village of Llanfechain overlooking the church. The property briefly comprises:- Lounge, Kitchen/dining Room, Bathroom and two bedrooms. There is oil fired central heating and double glazing (where stated). To the rear of the property there are two brick store sheds and an enclosed yard.

£94,995

MEIFOD

NEW PRICE

An idyllic 3 bedroom detached character cottage located on a 1/3 acre plot surrounded by hills and open fields. Ent hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility/study, bathroom, bedroom with further bathroom, 30ft workshop with gardens to front and side, parking for numerous vehicles.

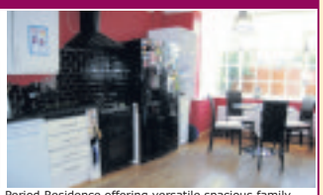
£259,000

ST MARTINS

A two bedroom semi-detached cottage, Located at the end of a small lane, well placed for access to local amenities.Two reception rooms, sun lounge,kitchen restyled bathroom.A particular feature of the property is the good sized gardens overlooking open fields. Viewing recommended.

£154,995

ELLESMERE



Samuel Wood are delighted to offer this 5 bedroomed Period Residence offering versatile spacious family accommodation. The property is believed to date back to the 17th century and offers a wealth of original features to include a beautiful feature oak staircase and exposed ceiling timbers. Positioned conveniently and within walking distance of the small market town of Ellesmere. Also having the advantage of the mere closeby with lovely gardens and woodland and the North Shropshire Canal. Easy access to larger towns

£349,000

ST. MARTINS

A very well presented 3 bedroom detached property. Immaculate and well maintained. A good sized corner plot offering a high degree of privacy. Lounge, Dinng room with French doors leading out to gardens, Kitchen, downstairs shower room, family bathroom, 3 bedrooms. Detached Garage and parking for car and caravan. Easy access to all local amenities. A viewing is highly recommended.

£185,000

PENYBONTFAWR

Three bedroom detached bungalow
Lounge, Kitchen, Utility/W.c
Oil heating, Carport
Overlooking fields and hillside
Viewing recommended.

£179,995

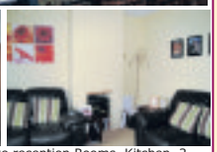
PANT

Three bedroom detached bungalow
Two reception rooms.
Restyled kitchen and bathroom
Elevated position. Garage

£199,500

Oswestry

NEW



A Two bedroomed Terraced Property ideal for the Town Centre. Two reception Rooms, Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Attic Room, Cellar. Gardens to the rear. An ideal opportunity for a first time buyer or investor.

£100,000

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RICS

NEW

Porth-Y-Waen Nr Oswestry £229,995

- A spacious 4 Bedroom Detached Bungalow in the hamlet of Porth-Y-Waen
- Situated in a large elevated plot with excellent views over countryside to rear
- Ent Hall, Large Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room
- Master Bedroom with Shower Rm, 3 other Bedrooms & Family Bathrm
- Large garden at rear with raised patio area & Detached Workshop
- Large driveway with ample parking, D/G and Oil C/H

Morda Close Oswestry £325,000

NEW - NO CHAIN

- A most comfortably appointed Detached Three Bedroom Dormer Bungalow situated in a premier area towards the outskirts of the Town
- Entrance Hall, Sitting Room, Sun Conservatory, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility, Cloakroom with shower, Master Bedroom, Luxury Bathroom.
- On the first floor a further Two Bedrooms and Family Bathroom. Double glazing, Gas C/H
- Garage, enclosed lawned gardens with shrubs and soft fruit trees.
- A private driveway to the fore from a shared initial access road

NEW

Malthouse Close Whittington £217,950

- A most impressive Modern Detached Family Residence that presents a fine and spacious home set in a premier area of Whittington which is only a short distance from Oswestry.
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, a Large Sitting Room, Separate Dining Room,
- Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom,
- Four Excellent Bedrooms, En-Suite Shower Room, Family Bathroom.
- Gas fired central heating, double glazing, delightful gardens and grounds together with a garage.

NEW PRICE

Sweeney Drive Morda £199,950

- An immaculate, spacious and extremely well maintained Detached House
- Situated in a prime location within the Village of Morda
- Constructed only eight years ago to quality standards
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Sitting Rm, Dining Rm, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility
- Four Excellent Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, En-Suite Shower Room
- Double glazing, Gas C/H, immaculate gardens to fore & rear
- Parking for several vehicles to the fore, single garage.

NEW PRICE - NO CHAIN

Barber Close Oswestry £174,950

- A most comfortably appointed and well presented 3 Storey Townhouse
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Sitting/Dining Room, Separate Kitchen
- Large Master Bedroom with En-Suite, Further Bedroom, Family Bathroom
- Second Floor Landing, Two Excellent Bedrooms, Shower Room
- Gas C/H, Double glazing, Garage
- Garden to rear, in superb order throughout

WITH ANNEX

Brynhafod Drive Oswestry £385,000

- A most comfortably appointed Detached Four Bedroom Property with Annex, set in one of the premier locations in the town
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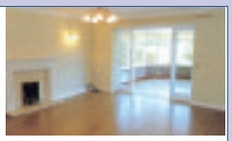

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Croeswylan Lane Oswestry £349,950

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A new build detached bungalow on a select development. The property is fully double glazed, has oil fired central heating and has been finished to an excellent standard with contemporary kitchen and sanitary ware. There is ample driveway parking as this is a corner plot as well as an attached single garage and front, side and rear lawns and patio.

£192,000

Oswestry

Newly constructed two bedroom apartments situated on the iconic Carriages development on the edge of the town centre. The properties benefit from designated parking, contemporary kitchens and bathrooms, floor to ceiling windows and balconies.

£110,000

Gobowen

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Guide Price £300,000

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PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK

Deposit and stamp duty offer on detached family home

A well-appointed four-bedroom home is on the market for offers around £169,950 with no chain. With five per cent deposit and stamp duty paid by the seller, buyers are urged to arrange an early viewing of 16 Churchfields, St Martins. Accommodation comprises entrance hall, study, lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen, utility, wc, first floor landing, master bedroom with ensuite, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, gas-fired central heating, double glazing, driveway providing ample off-street parking, garage and gardens.

For further information please contact Richmond Harvey on 01691 654222 or visit www.richmondharvey.com

Substantial equestrian smallholding set in 14 acres of land

Cefnau, Llangadfan, near Welshpool, is a residential smallholding of 14 acres which would be ideal for a horse-loving family. The stone house has many original features and it is on sale for £575,000. It has two reception rooms, a farmhouse kitchen, sun room, utility, shower room and a cellar. On the first floor are four bedroom and a large bathroom. Next to the main house are some outbuildings and a self-contained log cabin. Land includes gardens, a dingle, four paddocks and a pool.

For more details please contact Norman Lloyd on 01938 552371 or visit www.normanlloyd.co.uk

Charming rural retreat backing on to open fields

A character stone cottage in the village of Llanfechain is on the market with a guide price of £279,950. With many original features such as slate floors and beams, the property, Gwynfryn, has three reception rooms, a solid oak kitchen and a cellar. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and two shower rooms.

Views of open countryside can be enjoyed from the rear of the property, where there are easily maintained and fenced gardens.

For more details please contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com

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PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK

Picturesque sandstone cottage set in a popular village

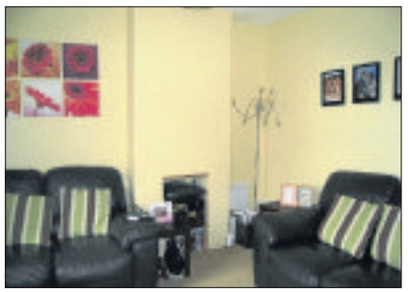
A charming sandstone cottage in a popular Shropshire village is on sale for £214,950. Quinta Cottage, Brownhill, Ruyton-XI-Towns, includes an L-shaped fitted kitchen, bathroom and a lounge/dining room with superb views, an Aga and exposed beams. Upstairs are two bedrooms, both with exposed timbers. There is parking for two cars and the gardens are split into terraces with a patio, sun trap with a herb garden, a lawn, decking and two sheds.

For further information please call Halls on 01691 670320 or visit www.hallsestateagents.co.uk

Spacious bungalow offers countryside views to the rear

A spacious four-bedroom detached bungalow in the popular hamlet of Porth-Y-Waen, near Oswestry, is for sale priced at £229,995. Bryn Rhosyn stands in a large elevated plot with excellent countryside views to the rear. There is an entrance hall, large lounge/dining room, kitchen, utility, master bedroom with ensuite shower room, three further bedrooms and a family bathroom. To the rear is a large garden with raised patio and workshop while to the front is a driveway with ample parking. The property also benefits from uPVC double glazing throughout and oil fired central heating.

For further information please contact Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



Smartly presented terrace ideally placed for town centre

A well-presented terraced cottage ideally positioned for Oswestry town centre is on the market for £100,000. The downstairs accommodation at 23 Castle Street comprises a hall, living room, dining room with multi-fuel burner, cellar with plumbing for washing machine and space for appliances, kitchen with built-in oven and hob, and bathroom with P-shaped bath, shower over, wash basin and wc. There are two bedrooms with built-in storage on the first floor, and an attic room on the second floor.

For further information please contact Samuel Wood & Company on 01691 659951 or visit www.samuelwood.co.uk

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Of Holy Cross Residential Home, on September 7, 2011, aged 72 years, formerly of Sunnyfields, Bell Lane, Shrewsbury.

Brother of Jan.

Service at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Friday, September 23, 2011, at 10.40am.

No flowers by request, donations if wished to SRF (Schizophrenia Research Fund), for which purpose a collection box will be provided at the Crematorium.

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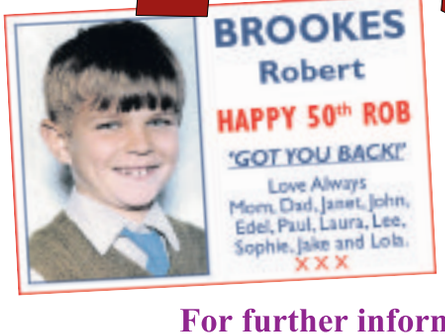

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Autumn film programme unveiled

A FILM screening company in Oswestry has announced its latest programme of events.

Kinokulture bosses say its summer film screenings were well received and it is now ready to start its autumn shows.

Its new programme will kick off at The Attfield Theatre on October 13 from 7.30pm with a screening of *The Angels' Share*, rated 15.

Over the autumn weeks there will also be an outdoor screening of *Supermarket* on October 20 from 6.30pm on The Bailey Head with a live community choir.

Following this other films lined up for screening at the Attfield theatre include *Snow White and The Huntsman* on November 3 from 1pm, *Once Upon A Time In Anatolia* on the same day at 7.30pm and then *The Fairy* on November 17 from 7.30pm.

Kinokulture spokesman said: "As summer comes to a close and the nights draw in we have put together a varied programme of screenings for the autumn months which we hope you will enjoy.

"We are working with our colleagues at Arts Connection Cyswllt Celf, Qube Arts, Film Club Wales and film educators at Shropshire Screen and across the West Midlands to develop a number of exciting film education projects for young people in the coming months and for 2013.

"We look forward to hosting more events in 2013."

Painting help call to brighten building

by Graham Breeze

A CASH-strapped community group is calling for volunteers to help them brighten up a building in Oswestry town centre.

Footfall is a partnership between organisations, schools and volunteers which works to help tidy up the town centre and encourage more people in the town.

Its latest project is to help spruce up the old Bangladeshi restaurant in Beatrice Street. But the group has run out of cash.

And it is now looking for volunteers to help it paint the outside of the building so it does not have to pay for a painter.

Buzz Thomas, from Footfall, said: "It has got a bit dilapidated with the paintwork and round the side there has been vandalism. We are going to improve that and paint it. We are also going to put a display in the window.

"We want to paint it all white but we don't have any funds for ongoing work.

"In the past we employed a local painter to do it cheaply do it for us but we haven't any money. We have a couple of our own volunteers. We need more volunteers who are willing and able to do painting."

When Footfall began it was given a cash grant of £6,000 but this has now run out. It is currently having its website redesigned to include a special link for people to make donations if they wish to do so.

Group members also have plans to make a 'Friends of Footfall' section on the site to encourage support.

Footfall is always open to new members and willing volunteers.

Recently the group helped with the creation of a new painting placed on the side of a building off of Bailey Head. Artist Marja Bonada was asked by the group to bring some life to the building which is currently used by local bands for music practice.

The artist painted silhouettes on the doors of the building of people drinking and dancing to give the effect that there is party going on.

Consultant surgeon is appointed by hospital

Andrew Barnett

A NEW consultant surgeon, with a specialist interest in sports injuries, has been appointed to Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Orthopaedic knee specialist Andrew Barnett has joined the NHS Foundation Trust. His role is shared with the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

A keen sportsman, Mr Barnett went to Newcastle Medical School, then trained in Bristol. Following his specialist training rotation, he underwent fellowship knee reconstruction training in Oxford and Exeter and undertook a travelling Sports Medicine Fellowship in Sydney, Australia and a Trauma Fellowship at Frenchay Hospital, Bristol.

Mr Barnett said: "The job description is perfect for the training I have undertaken."

He enjoys cycling, running, skiing and cricket and is interested in golf and rugby.

Church celebrates

From left, Mary Hilary and Gwen Hall serving refreshments to visitors. *Picture: Peter Flemmich.*

A WEEKEND of celebrations was staged to celebrate the anniversary of Christ Church in Oswestry.

Church member Jayne Middleton said a whole host of activities had been organised over the weekend to celebrate the history of the border church and some had have a Welsh flavour.

Mrs Middleton said: "The church was decorated with flowers, with displays recalling the 140-year history of the United Reformed Church in Oswestry. On Saturday a 'birthday bazaar' was held with stalls ranging from china and glass, jewellery and books to Christmas items.

"There was a Welsh element to the celebration partially to reflect the location of the church on the Shropshire/Welsh border but also to recognise that the Welsh Presbyterian Church joined with the United Reformed Church in Oswestry some years ago".

Visitors in the area came along to learn more about the church and its history.

Church relaunches organ repair appeal fundraising

FUNDRAISERS are reopening an appeal to raise cash to restore an 1800s organ in Oswestry after being told repair work won't start for another 14 months.

The parish church of St Oswald the King and Martyr, Church Road, had an organ restoration project running for many years before ending efforts in September last year.

It was hoped that £500,000 would be raised to fix the instrument but after raising about £108,000 it was decided, with the effects of the ongoing recession, they would stop the collection.

It was instead decided that they would go ahead with as much repair work as their funds could pay as fundraising couldn't go on forever.

Mike Donkin, director of music at the church, said they have now been informed that work on the organ cannot be carried out on until late 2013. This has opened a window for them to carry on looking for cash.

He said: "In view of this the PCC has agreed that we can re-open our fundraising to try and bridge the gap between what we have and the total required."

He said the current shortfall was £62,000 with VAT. "We will be making vigorous efforts to bridge the gap in the 14 months left to us before work commences," he said. "We are grateful to the parish for its support of the project and welcome ideas for future fundraising. We would be happy to hear from anybody interested to contribute."

School top of PE class

A VILLAGE school near the Shropshire/Welsh border has finished top of the class after its work in PE received a glowing report.

Ysgol Rhiwabon, near Oswestry, was awarded an ActiveMarc Cymru for its promotion of physical activity.

Headteacher Alun Harding said: "Our sports staff and students have excelled over time and have again shown the highest quality in numerous sports and have actively encouraged all our students to participate in a wide range of physical activities."

Residents question plans for estate area

RESIDENTS claim they have had little information about the sale of Lake Vyrnwy estate's lease and feel anxious about the area's future.

Severn Trent Water wants to sell the estate's 125-year lease, excluding the lake, and it has been divided up for a number of bidders.

It is being sold in four lots; in-hand farming, let farming, commercial woodland and residential and commercial. In 2010 it was given a price tag of £11 million.

Residents in the area and nearby Llanwddyn have, in the past, said they felt left in the dark.

Last month Severn Trent revealed it planned to hold a drop-in session in September or early October, but villager Margaret Hughes said she still hadn't heard anything and called on MP Glyn Davies to help.

"I rang our MP and said he has to do something. We are anxious about this."

Mr Davies said: "I have agreed to make contact with the purchasers. People have been anxious about this since the very beginning."

Severn Trent said this week strict guidelines meant the process took longer than anticipated. Spokeswoman Sarah McArthur said the firm was grateful for the tenants' patience and understanding from tenants during the proposed lease sale."

Shropdoc service 'must not be jeopardised by NHS line'

THE future of the Shropdoc out-of-hours doctor service must not be jeopardised by the introduction of the new 111 telephone line, north Shropshire's MP has insisted.

Owen Paterson said he hoped the two would be able to work together when the new system was introduced next year. The north Shropshire MP was speaking after one of the regular health meetings that he chairs in Oswestry, attended by representatives of various health interest groups.

"The major item we talked about was Shropdoc and how that was going to work alongside the 111 number," he said. "We have a very good, locally grown, out-of-hours service in Shropdoc and the two systems should work together."

Shropdoc, a local GP co-operative, provides primary healthcare services including a GP out-of-hours service to over 600,000 patients.

In its 2011/2012 audit Shropdoc was described as 'commendable'.

The 111 service, which has been run as a pilot in different parts of the country, is being rolled out nationally next April.

This will be the number that people call if they need a doctor but do not consider dialling 999 is appropriate.

The Government-introduced NHS 111 service is described as a fast and easy way to get the right help from local NHS healthcare services.

NHS 111 will be available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls will be free from landlines and mobile phones.

The public will be able to use the 111 service if they need medical help fast but it is not a 999 emergency, they think they need to go to A&E or need another NHS urgent care service.

They can also ring if they do not know who to call or if they do not have a GP to call, they need health information or reassurance about what to do next.

For immediate, life-threatening emergencies, 999 will remain.

by Sue Austin

New bid to cut falls in hospital

A DRIVE to reduce the number of patients who suffer falls at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital is to continue after a report revealed the level rose well above targets in August.

Bosses at the hospital have worked hard in recent months to reduce the number of falls including asking patients to follow doctors' advice on when they should be walking by themselves after surgery.

But a report to the hospital trust board revealed there were 22 falls in August.

That relates to only 3.08 per cent of the hospital activity but is well above the 1.6 per cent target ceiling.

Trust board members said although the number related to only a tiny fraction of the hospital's overall activity, the incidents were still a concern.

Hospital chief executive Wendy Farrington Chadd said work would continue to ensure the number of falls would be kept to a minimum.

Pupils praised for wildlife work

Marches students, front, from left, Joseph Whale and Sam Mansell and back, from left, Daniel Taylor, Josh Page and Thomas Lowe celebrate their bloom success.

GREEN-fingered youngsters at a Shropshire secondary school have been commended for their efforts in creating a wildlife pond and growing produce.

Youngsters at Oswestry's Marches School have received two prizes from the Oswestry In Bloom Committee for their hard work.

The school entered two categories in the awards and was visited by gardening expert Margaret Thrower in July who judged their work.

The results were announced last month and staff and students at The Marches were delighted to hear they had won prizes in both categories entered.

Pupils were delighted to receive the gold award in the Outstanding work by Young People category. The school was also presented with a silver award in the Best Kept School category.

Headteacher Sarah Longville said: "We are delighted to receive both of these awards as testament to the hard work and commitment of students and staff at The Marches School."

NEWS in brief

Summer music days to continue

OSWESTRY'S summer music in the park programme is set to continue next year – with a wider range of performers likely to take the stage.

The brass band performances began in the summer of 2010 to celebrate the centenary of the town's showpiece Cae Glas public park.

The performances proved such a hit that a similar programme was held a year later and again during the summer this year.

Town councillors were being asked last night to agree to a further programme of summer music being staged at Cae Glas Park next year.

The town council's events manager David Clough said that this year bands from all over the county took part in the regular music sessions in the park.

Compost tips at autumn fun day

AN autumn event for children and families took place on Sunday at Llanymynech, arranged by Shropshire Wildlife Trust's local Wildlife Watch group.

People collected acorns, ash keys and other seeds and potted them up to grow at home.

Master composter Linda Sheppard demonstrated how to make compost and how nature recycles vegetation with a little help from worms.

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NEWS

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Royal Welsh hunt for new chief with £75,000 salary

THE Mid Wales-based organisation which runs one of the country's largest and most successful agricultural shows is looking for a new chief executive – with a starting salary of £75,000.

The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society runs the iconic Royal Welsh Show, which attracts about 230,000 people over the course of four days every summer.

The organisation also runs other important events on the farming calendar at its base at Llanelwedd near Builth Wells including the Winter Fair and the Royal Welsh Spring Festival. Bosses have announced they are looking for a new person to take the helm after the retirement of long serving chief executive David Walters.

by Graham Breeze

Society spokesman John Kendall said: "The Royal Welsh Agricultural society is seeking a new chief executive at a starting salary of £75,000 plus benefits to succeed David Walters who retires next May after 28 years in the post.

"The job, based at the Royal Welsh showground, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells, is being widely advertised as an exciting opportunity to head one of the most successful agricultural societies in Europe.

"Candidates are expected to be highly self-motivated, possess excellent management and communication skills, be able to work as part of a team, prioritise a heavy workload and be flexible and calm in all situations.

"Among other essential requirements the new chief executive will need to have an understanding and knowledge of Welsh agriculture and possess excellent presentational skills, both verbal and written, in English and Welsh."

Mr Walters joined the staff of the Royal Welsh in 1976, was promoted secretary in 1978 and became chief executive in 1984.

The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society was formed in 1904. The society has come a long way since those early days and the Royal Welsh Show has become an important event in the Welsh calendar and is supported by approximately 18,146 staunch members.

Group will give voice to young members

YOUNG farmers in Mid Wales will have a stronger voice thanks to a new group, farming union bosses said.

The Farmers' Union of Wales has set up a 'Younger Voice for Farming' committee. Bosses say one of the union's main priorities has always been to ensure there is an avenue for younger members to feed into its discussions on issues of importance such as CAP reform.

"It is important to include the views of younger members and new entrants to the industry in our work and by establishing this new standing committee we are able to provide another platform for their opinions and views," said FUW president Emyr Jones.

"The union has always striven to represent the views of all its members. We are now taking on a more modern approach and hope the new committee will be a modern forum for young members and those new to the industry," he added.

Meeting date

OSWESTRY & Border History & Archaeology Group meets tomorrow (Friday) in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Jeff Spencer, Historic Environment Record Officer with Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

Legal advice on aircraft bid

POLICE IN Mid Wales are consulting legal advisers in order to challenge plans to replace the force's helicopter with a fixed-wing aircraft.

The Dyfed-Powys Police helicopter covers incidents in Welshpool as well as other areas of Mid Wales, but could be replaced as soon as 2014.

The force's police authority says it has 'grave concerns' over the Government's plans which would see 23 aircraft shared between the 43 police forces with just three replacements on standby. It is seeking legal advice on how it can challenge the plans.

The plans would mean replacing the force's helicopter with just one fixed-wing aircraft to cover nearly 500,000 people in an area more than half the size of Wales.

A report by the authority's chief executive, Keith Reeves, said it has run test flights of a fixed-wing aircraft which it says have 'confirmed the validity' of its concerns.

Students learn all about care

Back, from left, are Lauren Whyte, Hollie Mytton, Tom Davies and Awel Jones, middle row, Chloe Jones, Hannah Vaughan, Rebecca Holyhead and Gemma Lee. Front, from left, Alison Harper, Freja Evans-Swogger and Sue Sharp.

THE importance of good patient care has been outlined to students studying health and social care at the Oswestry campus of Walford and North Shropshire College.

Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital patient advice and liaison service officer Alison Harper visited the students to speak about the issue. She was joined by Freja Evans-Swogger, a patient and advocate at the hospital, who serves on its patient panel.

College spokeswoman Mary Dominica said: "As a result of her own experiences, Freja has also set up, and now runs, the Hip and Knee Support Group at the hospital.

"Alison talked to the students about the role of the patient advice and liaison service and how it helps to support patients and their families. Freja was able to give the students a patient's perspective by relating her own experiences."

Professor in thanks to former teacher

A WOMAN from the Shropshire/Powys border has become one of Britain's youngest professors in psychology – despite almost leaving school at 16.

Former Llanfyllin High School student Theresa Gannon is already recognised as a leading authority in forensic psychology.

Now, at the age of 35, she has been made professor by the University of Kent.

She paid tribute to the former headmaster at the high school for encouraging her to continue her education.

Professor Gannon has written more than 100 book chapters and journals and edited books on the topics of male and female sexual offending, arson, violence, and rehabilitation. She also works to rehabilitate convicted sexual offenders.

She is the director of the university's centre of research and education in forensic psychology. Prior to this, she held research positions at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Her parents still live in Bwlch-y-Cibbau.

"I'm really pleased. I think that this makes me one of the UK's youngest professors in psychology and confirms to me that hard work is rewarded," she said.

Professor Gannon cited her former headmaster, Dr Dafydd Leighton OBE, as a major influence.

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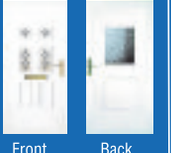

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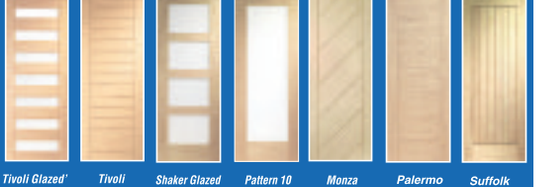

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MARKETS

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Welshpool livestock market

October 8
OTMS (105)

A massive entry of 105 over thirty month old cattle sold very well to average of 118ppkg for 91 older cows, 3 bulls averaged 136ppkg, 5 under 48 month old heifers averaged 142ppkg and five under 48 month old steers averaged 143ppkg. A top quality limousin cow weighing 894kg from A A Collocci Great Cloddiau sold to a top price of £1466.16. J A Williams Llechewedd Ddyrys sold a Limousin cow weighing 701kg to £1079.54. A A Collucci Great Cloddiau receives the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price older cow sold on the day. If you require any further information regarding this section please contact the market on 01938 553438 or the Auctioneer Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999.

FAT CATTLE (9)

Only 9 fat cattle presented for sale today, selling to an average 169ppkg for the steers and 191ppkg for the heifers. D W & L Jones Arbennig sold two Limousin heifers to 225ppkg and 220ppkg. E E & MJ Jones & Sons Cwmbychan sold a steer to 188ppkg and a heifer to 186ppkg. DW & L Jones Arbennig receive the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price per kilo animal sold on the day. Weekly sale of Fat cattle every Monday at approximately12.30pm. More Fat Cattle urgently required to meet a very strong demand from potential purchasers. If you have require any advise or wish to sell fat cattle at the market please contact the auctioneer Mr Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999 or the market office on 01938 553438.

PRIME LAMBS (5443)

An entry of 5443 Prime lambs, selling to an overall average of 155ppkg.

Lights (25.5kg to 32kg) (569) to 182ppkg from M & H Evans Tycerrig. Others to 179ppkg from R T Watkins Coed y Deri. Average of 145ppkg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (764) to 182ppkg from DG & J Johnson Tycerrig. Others to 178ppkg from E B Ellis Penisarcwm. Average of 157ppkg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (2461) to 181ppkg from D R Owen & Sons Sandilands. Others to 171ppkg from D S Griffiths & Co Braich y fedw. Average of 155.7ppkg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (1401) to 160ppkg from W R L Price & Co Pencwm. Others to 159ppkg from D R Owen & Sons Sandilands. Average of 152ppkg.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (201) to 156ppkg from D R Owen & Sons Sandilands. Others to 155ppkg from C E Pryce Yr Helyg. Average of 145ppkg.

CULL EWE (3148)

An entry of 3148 cull sheep on offer for sale today, sold to average £42.00 for the ewes and £64.00 for the rams. Top price of the day for the ewes was £130 per head from R E Lewis Gribin. Top price for the cull rams was £152 per head from T C Evans 10 Heritage Green. Weekly sale of cull sheep to immediately follow the sale of fat lambs at approximately 12noon.

STORE LAMBS & IN LAMB EWES

A good entry of 1600 breeding ewes. Yearling ewes achieving a top price of £148 for Welsh mules from W C G Davies & Son Tynypwll. Two year old ewes achieving a top price of £130. Three year old ewes gaining a top price of £88 from B Lewis Tycrugan Full mouth ewes achieving a top price of £84. As found ewes achieving a top price of 376 and an entry of 104 theave lambs achieving a top price of 3767 from CJ & M Davies & Son.

Store Lambs. An entry of 964 store lambs achieving an overall average of £52.13. Theave lambs gaining a top price of £66 from M & H Evans Tycerrig. Mixed and Clean lambs sold to a top price of £63 from H M Rogers Upper House. Wether lambs making a top price of £55.20 from JT & GH Jones Talerddig. Tup lambs gaining a top price of £55.80 from T M Davies Wynnstay Farm. Mixed and tup lambs achieving a to price of £67 from D E Bennett Cwmgwernog. Theave tup lambs achieving top price of £52 from A Williams Tanllan. Sale to commence next Monday, Store Lambs at 10.30am.

DAIRY COWS

An entry of 12 Dairy Cows met with an excellent trade, the best seen for a while which was worthy fo the cattle on offer. Top price was £2110 for a Brown Swissx heifer giving 36litre a day from P W Pritchard and K A Loake Cefn Heylin. From the same home was another Brown Swissx which made £2000. At £200 was an eclipse daughter giving 27 litres presented by R R Corfield & Son Bronynant. N Samuel Lower Ystrad sold 2 British Friesian heifers for £2000 a piece. From R N Thompson Oak Green Farm where three heifers selling for £1980, £1950 and £1900. WA & EM Morris Maestanyglwyden sold a heifer for £1920. A Breakdown of the prices achieved where as follows:

£2000 + 5 lots, £1800 - £2000 4 lots, £1600 - £1800 1 lot, Less than £1600 2 lots.

FORTHCOMING SALES:

Monday 15th October, Sale of Ped Texel Rams and Cows and Calves.

Tuesday 16th October, Mid October Store Cattle Fair.

Thursday 18th October, Sale of Welsh Half Bred Sheep & All Breed Ewe Lambs.

Monday 22nd October, Sale of Dairy Cows.

Monday 29th October, Sale of Cows and Calves.

Tuesday 30th October, October Store Cattle Fair.

LLEYN SHEEP SOCIETY

SALE OF REGISTERED LLEYN SHEEP

Welspool Market – September 29

Exceptional clearance rates across the board at a very successful sale at Welshpool Market. 100% clearance was seen in the shearling ewe section with WJ & DJ WilliamsNefyn topping the prices. Messrs Williams 2nd prize pen sold for £255/head to ELL Williams, Gwynedd. The third prize pen from DN Bennett & Son, Powys sold for £238/head to N Legge, Leominster. Christine Lewis, Powys sold her first prize pen for £225/head to WP Davies, LLanelwy.

In the ewe lamb section once again WJ & DJ Williams were at the top when selling the champion pen for £170/head to A Pritchard, Deeside. DN Bennett & Son sold the third prize pen for £160/head to W Bebb Farms Ltd, Powys while DA Jones, Powys sold the second prize pen for £150/head to EM Evans, Oswestry.

The ram section was won by H & M Dugdale, Settle who also realised the top price of 1400gns when selling their homebred shearling by a Lynda Jenkinson ram, to G & A Fort, Keighley. DN Bennett & Son were next with their second prize Goldie son selling for 980gns to M White, Coldfield. Robert Bennett, Powys was next to top with his third prize shearling selling for 780gns to G Williams, Meifod.

Show Results

Shearling Ewes
1st Christine Lewis
2nd WJ & DJ Williams
3rd DN Bennett & Son

Ewe lambs
1st WJ & DJ Williams
2nd DA Jones
3rd DN Bennett & Son

Champion Females WJ & DJ Williams – ewe lambs

Reserve Females Christine Lewis – shearling ewes

Rams
1st H & M Dugdale
2nd DN Bennett & Son
3rd Robert Bennett

Champion Ram H & M Dugdale

Reserve Ram D N Bennett & Son

Averages

Shearling ewes to £255	av. £149
Ewe lambs to £170	av. £99
Ewes to £120	av. 94
Aged Rams to 520gns	av. £336
Shlg Rams to 1400gns	av. £546

Oswestry cattle auctions

October 3

FAT CATTLE: (103)

If you have cattle to sell please contact the Auctioneer Jonathan Evans on 07971 002650 or the Market office.

Young Bulls (48) Overall Average 171p.

Light Bulls (14) Average 147p (£634/head) Selling to 174p from S & B Lawrence & Son Trepennal Farm

Medium Bulls (28) Average 174.5p (£889/head) Selling to 215p from J A Roberts & Son Upper Stockton

Heavy Bulls (6) Average 190p (£1146/head) Selling to 208p from E D & H L Morris & Sons Maes

Steers (19) Overall Average 170p.

Medium Steers (12) Average 172.5p (£888/head) Selling to 209p from R E & B E Lewis Gribin

Heavy Steers (7) Average 166.5p (£1114/head) Selling to 183p from B J & G M Williams Hinwell House

Heifers (36) Overall Average 182p

Medium Heifers (10) Average 203.5p (£921/head) Selling to 228p from J Gittoes Wrexham

Heavy Heifers (26) Average 175.5p (£1006/head) Selling to 200p from E Davies Tynrhos

Thank you for your continued support

FAT LAMBS: (2495)

The trade was very steady on the day with the standard and medium sheep steading in trade all day.186 light lambs averaged 150p/kg peaking at 178p/kg with 32kg lambs making £57 from E Lloyd & Co Garthiaen. 712 standard lambs sold very well with the average being 157.5p/kg. The top call in this section was 199p/kg or £77.50 for 39kg again from E Lloyd & Co Garthiaen. 997 medium lambs levelled at 157p/kg with 44kg being 180p/kg for £79 from T H Vaughan & Son Maesmochnant Uchaf. The 488 heavy lambs were in good demand with M & S Jones Lower Forest making £87 for a 49kg texel lamb

Lights to 178p average 150p, Standards to 199p average 157.5p, Mediums to 180p average 157p, Heavy's to 178p average 154p, Others to 148p average 143.5p. Overall average 157p.

FAT EWES: (1166)

Ewes to £91.00 average £33.00, Rams to £104.00, average £61.00

Please Note : All sheep entering the Market must be tagged.

CALVES: (58)

A very ordinary selection and consequently not reaching the dizzy heights of last week. Best continental bulls topping at £318 for Charolais from Messrs Clay Brook Farm. Limousin Bulls to £310 £308 & £305 from Messrs Owen Upper Garth. British Blue Bulls to £288 from Messrs Jones Bank Farm £282 from Messrs Francis New Barns Farm £258 from Messrs Wigley Drenewydd. Simmental Bulls to £265 from Messrs Hickson Kilhendre. Hereford Bulls to £264 from Messrs Foulkes Maesteg. British Blue Heifers to £230 from Messrs Jones Bank Farm. Limousin Heifers to £220 from Messrs Edwards Lower Sweeney. Hereford Heifers to £220 from Messrs Davies Park Mill. Friesian Bulls to £180 & £160 from Messrs Jones Lyneal Hall £125 from Messrs Roberts Pentre David £118 from Messrs Edwards Plasyncoed £74 from Messrs Ellis Pentre Wern

U72 & CULL COWS: (74)

An entry of 74 cattle met with an easier trade in line with the trade all week. The plain cows were a little less again but the better quality cows were very similar. The steaking cows were also a little less although there were plenty of bids for them to a price. Top price Cow 157p/kg. Top price Heifer 170p/kg and Top price Bull 183p/kg

Cows
Limousin to 157p average 134.24p/kg
Friesian to 127p average 95.62p/kg
Others to 114p average 96.24p/kg

Heifers
Continentals to 170p average 146.24p/kg

Steers
Continentals to 149p average 138.46p/kg

Bull
British Blues to 159p
Blonde D'Aquataine to 183p average 172.68p

74 Cattle average 111.05p/kg

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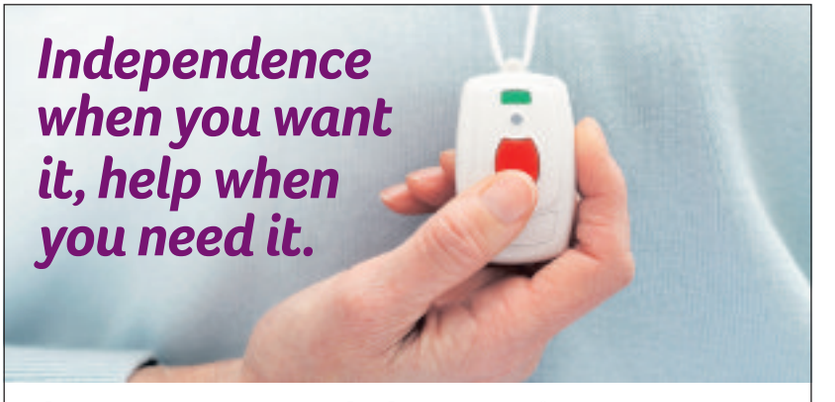
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£75,000 scheme to boost town sparks much interest

INTEREST has been sparked in Oswestry over the £75,000 set aside by councillors to help make the town more attractive and welcoming to visitors.

Oswestry Joint Economic Board recently announced that cash had been allocated to help regenerate the town centre's retail areas.

There are a number of empty premises and this grant scheme would be available to improve buildings and bring them back into use.

Money would also be spent on converting the spaces over shop units into accommodation.

Today Shropshire councillor Martin Bennett, who is also the mayor of Oswestry, said: "There have been a number of expressions of interests in the grant."

He said Oswestry Town Council would be asked to administrate grant applications and work was now being carried out to see how many buildings could benefit from the help.

"We are gradually building up and trying to complete a data base of who owns what in the town," he said.

"The biggest difficulties are the big properties which have firms that are based overseas."

He said a report on the scheme was due to go before a scrutiny committee at Shropshire Council on October 17.

by Chrissy Symmons

Oswestry Joint Economic Board is a partnership approach developed by Shropshire Council and Oswestry Town Council to pool resources and knowledge of the town's economic development.

As well as this fund, the board also wants to explore other opportunities for Oswestry including business start-ups for young people and business mentoring, working in partnership with the Oswestry Chamber of Trade.

The new grant scheme is currently being developed and information on how businesses can apply for funding will be announced in the future.

For more information call Susan Coleman, Shropshire Council's Business Support Officer, on (01743) 252597 or email *susan.coleman@shropshire.gov.uk*

Prices cut at hall to bring in tourists

A TOURIST attraction near the Shropshire/Welsh border is offering reduced admission prices in October.

Plas Newydd in Llangollen will be open from 10am to 4pm on Wednesdays to Sundays until November 4, with the tea rooms open 10am to 4pm from Thursday to Sunday.

Admissions to the house and food and drink in the tea rooms will have 10 per cent off until the end of the season.

Samantha Williams, heritage manager, said: "It's been a busy summer at Plas Newydd.

"We've seen an increase in visitor numbers compared to previous years despite the economic climate.

"The new menu in the tea rooms and covered outdoor seating has proved really popular this year, our first ever dog show was great fun and we trialled a shuttle bus from the town which we hope to repeat next summer.

"We've lots more ideas in the pipeline but our main aim is to continually develop the visitor experience at this remarkable house and give people more reasons to return.

"As October is traditionally our quietest month, we've decided to encourage people in with 10 per cent off all house admissions and purchases in the tea rooms."

Youngsters step up to raise charity cash

The girls who from Packwood Haugh took part were Ana Gutierrez, Zoe Nugent, Lexi Samuel, Amelia Peterson, Natasha Carter-Motley, Rosie Simpson, Annabel Robertson, Talullah Blackham, Amelia Maunder, Phoebe Wasdell and Daisy Harker-Weston.

A GROUP of Shropshire students put their best feet forward in support of a fellow pupil who has diabetes.

The girls from prep school, Packwood Haugh at Ruyton-XI-Towns, got their walking boots on to take part in a sponsored walk at Drayton Manor Park.

Their efforts paid off as they raised about £800 for a charity which carries out research into diabetes in young people.

School spokeswoman Cath Hammond said: "A group of kind-hearted girls completed the five kilometre sponsored walk on September 30 in aid of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund.

"The pupils raised over £800 and the money will be used to fund work to cure, treat and prevent Type 1 diabetes.

"One of the girls has the disease and in a gesture of solidarity, 10 of her classmates joined her and hundreds of others on the walk.

"Despite opportunities to cut corners and avoid the mud, the girls determinedly completed the full course to earn their money with honour."

Backing for drive to stop smoking

A HYPNOTHERAPIST from Mid Wales is backing the NHS's Stoptober campaign to get millions of people to give up smoking.

Phil Collins, from Manafon, near Welshpool, said he hoped the campaign would work, but warned anyone using hypnotherapy to only use a practitioner registered with the Complementary & Natural Healthcare Council (CNHC).

Mr Collins said: "Many people use hypnotherapy to provide extra help in the process of giving up smoking.

The Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council (CNHC) is the UK regulator for complementary therapists that was set up with government funding and support.

"Hypnotherapy is often used to help clients achieve the behavioural change needed to stop smoking but it's so important the public use someone who knows what they are doing."

As part of the Stoptober campaign to help people stop smoking, Phil is offering his treatment for those who wish to give up smoking at half his normal fee.

For further information, please contact on (01686) 650632 or *www.powyshypnosis.com* or visit the CNHC website for a list of registered practitioners *www.cnhc.org.uk*

Smoker Karen kicks habit to raise money for charity

A WOMAN who started smoking when she was just 11 years old has managed to kick the habit 40 years on and raise money to help a young girl to walk.

Karen Rogers, from Pant, near Oswestry, says that being sponsored to raise funds for the Evie's Dream charity gave her the determination she had never had before to give up cigarettes.

And she says not only has she raised more than £500 for the charity she can now walk up a hill without getting out of breath and has herself saved £1,800 some of which went on a family holiday to Turkey.

The 51-year-old swimming teacher at Oswestry Leisure Centre has tried to give up smoking several times in the past but is now a proud 'non-smoker'.

"Once I all but gave up for 12 years. But this time I really believe that I won't go back to it."

She said that after losing his nan to lung disease a young member of the family begged her to stop smoking.

"I had also seen a friend die from the same and I suddenly thought, I don't want to end my days like that. I have two young grandsons of my own and it struck me that I wanted to stick around and see them grow up. When I mentioned that I was going to try

WOMEN OF SUBSTANCE
with Sue Austin

and give up a mother of two girls that I teach suggested that I was sponsored and that I raise funds for Evie's Dream."

"It has been hard but being sponsored meant that I really didn't want to let down the charity."

"I smoked about 20 cigarettes a day so I am saving about £200 a month. That's £1,800 I have served this year alone. Last year we went camping in Wales but this year we have just returned from a fortnight in Turkey."

It is not too late to sponsor her for the Evie's dream charity which hopes to raise £30,000 to help four-year-old Evie-Lou Harrington from Llangynog, who suffers from cerebral palsy, have treatment to help her mobility.

The little girl's mum, Donna, said: "We are very grateful to Karen. Giving up smoking is a very difficult thing and in achieving it she has raised such a lot of money."

Karen Rogers from Pant has raised over £500 for Evie's Dream.

Extension plan may see jobs created

PLANS for an extension to an industrial estate in Oswestry could bring new jobs to the town.

Dennis Edwards Development Ltd is planning to put new units on the Maesbury Industrial Estate.

Work will start on the five-and-a-half acres of land in the New Year, but a road has already been created near Weston Road, which leads on to the site.

Developer Dennis Edwards said this could be used to build one or several units.

"There will be commercial units put up for whoever wants them," he said. "Some will be up for rent and some will be up for sale.

"We are taking inquiries about it at the moment.

"Basically it is being set up ready for the early part of next year."

Mr Edwards, who already owns units along Maesbury Road, said the final set up of the land would depend on the interest generated.

"It depends on what people want," he said.

"I have put the road in there to see if we can create interest. Not much will happen now until after Christmas."

People interested in setting up business in the new area can call Dennis Edwards Development Ltd on (01691) 682133.

Dressing up day helps charity funds

CHILDREN at a Shropshire village primary school have been busy fundraising for two good causes.

The youngsters at Kinnerley Primary School held a Dahlicious Dress Up Day and raised £100 for the Roald Dahl Marvellous Children's Charity.

Headteacher Alek Sadowski said: "Children and staff dressed up as characters from Roald Dahl books to raise funds for the Roald Dahl Marvellous Children's Charity, which helps very sick children."

On the same day the school raised £300 from a Macmillan coffee morning.

Planners asked to approve ATM bid

PLANS have been revealed for a cash machine at a post office in a Shropshire village.

The move will provide a 24-hour service to customers in Gobowen and also promote the use of other nearby businesses, a design and access statement submitted to Shropshire Council says.

The statement adds: "The Post Office branch provides a valued service to the local community. As part of the Post Office's financial product and at a request from the postmaster, an ATM is proposed at the location.

"The ATM will provide a valuable amenity to the local community while helping the Post Office provide a 24-hour service.

"ATMs provide a reliable and safe means of account and cash withdrawal facilities near to where they live.

"This helps to improve not only the viability of this local post office but to encourage use of other facilities nearby.

"An ATM installation can have a positive effect on the immediate location's security and economics due to positive footfall in the area."

The statement added there was parking available and said CCTV could be installed.

Shropshire Council hopes to determine the application by November 16.

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With cranberry sauce and toasted baguette

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Traditional Turkey with all the Trimmings
Served with roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, Brussel sprouts, pigs in blankets and sage & onion stuffing, all served with cranberry sauce
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Tender pieces of slow cooked beef in mushrooms, roasted onions, garlic & thyme in a red wine sauce, served with roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables, peas, Brussel sprouts and a Yorkshire pudding
Sweet Chilli Salmon Fillet †
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Desserts
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Choux Pastry cream filled and served with a rich chocolate sauce
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A biscuit base topped with a white chocolate mousse layered with raspberries
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Served with ice cream
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HungryHorse

Computer help puts fun into lessons

STATE-of-the-art equipment has been introduced at a college in north Shropshire to help make maths lessons more fun and interactive.

Students and teachers at Ellesmere College are now using hand held personal computers which have functions including calculators, graphs, geometry, data and statistical spreadsheets, and data logging.

The mathematics department has introduced the new equipment to engage students in the classroom.

The project is part of the college's Enhance Ellesmere programme, an initiative introduced to put the latest equipment into the hands of its students, and was funded by the College Parent Society.

Peter Hayes, from the maths department, said: "The result is a shared, interactive mathematics space which enables instant feedback."

He said the system brought maths to life.

Charges denied

A 23-year-old Ellesmere man denied two counts of engaging in sexual activity with a child. Ricky Jones, of Pinfold Lane, denied the offences between November last year and February when he appeared at Shrewsbury Crown Court. He was bailed.

Real life Woody's red head is truly impressive sight

IT'S always rather nice when children meet their heroes, provided that is, they are not a disappointment. For me, growing up in rural North America, obsessed with the local wildlife and an occasional watcher of children's TV, my heroes were all animal characters.

If my parents were planning a holiday to the Mid-West, it was time to research the Road Runner and Wiley Coyote. If we were to visit Yellowstone, (or even, Yellystone) then I'd keep a good lookout for Yogi Bear. I was rarely disappointed. But what about in my own back garden?

Woody Woodpecker and his ostentatious quiff, is known to children on both sides of the Atlantic, however the actual species he is modelled on, is an American one. Having been born in the UK, I was used to our great and lesser spotted woodpeckers and would often hear (and, less often, see) the green species. Although you wouldn't call these birds particularly small, you wouldn't class them as very large either.

As I began to search around my Connecticut home for 'Woody' I was looking for a similar-sized bird. Boy was I in for a shock. The pileated woodpecker is huge! Well, maybe I'm exaggerating a little, but it's certainly far bigger than the three species found in the UK. And unlike the subtle patch of red found on our woodpeckers, the red of the pileated is more like a flamboyant Indian headdress. In fact it's very much like the children's character. I was duly impressed.

But this got me to thinking. Why red? In the animal kingdom, red seems to be a very attractive colour. It may just be coincidence that different orders of animal life chose red as an attractant…or there could be something there.

ON THE WILD SIDE
with
Ben Waddams

In the fish world, red is a very important, yet equally mysterious colour. The great wildlife film maker Hugh Miles recently made a film on fish. He spent many years filming the different species found here in the UK (including some wonderful footage from Shropshire's meres). And what he found with the main exponents of the red colour, (roach and rudd) was that when they swam together, the fish would communicate with quick flashes of their crimson fins.

It's easy to deduce simply by thinking about it for a few moments, that the red colouring is one of the most important attributes to a roach or rudd's life. Why else would evolution and natural selection keep it going, for it certainly makes these species more visible to a large perch or lurking pike.

And I think the same goes for woodpeckers. When a male woodpecker drums on a tree, he is signalling to others that, firstly, this is his territory and secondly, if you're a female, then why not pop over? We all know woodpeckers peck at an incredible rate (up to 25 pecks a second) but as well as that audible signal, does the red patch, nape or entire head of the bird, (which is a common characteristic in many of the species regardless of the colour of the rest of the body) also play a part in their lives? I don't know, but the nice thing about natural history, is that one can at least make an educated guess!

Greater spotted woodpecker on silver birch – acrylic on board by Ben Waddams

Remains of drug factory is dumped

THE remains of a cannabis factory have been dumped in the Shropshire countryside, police have said.

The material, including the remains of plants and growing bags, was discovered by a member of the public in a gateway in Elson, near Ellesmere.

Police said there did not appear to be any of the drug, but rather the equipment used to grow it, which has now been removed.

Police spokesman Richard Ewels said: "Police are appealing for information after what appears to be the remains of a small cannabis growing unit were found at Elson, Ellesmere.

"Two bags containing bits of cannabis plants, together with about 12 growing bags containing soil, were found in a gateway near the sewage works in Elson. The material was initially reported as fly-tipping.

"Police are appealing for witnesses who saw these being dumped or for any further information regarding their source."

Speaking after the discovery in August, Councillor Alan Clarke, mayor of Ellesmere, said: "I don't believe it was grown in Ellesmere – it could have come from anywhere."

Anyone with information can call police on 101 or Crimestoppers for free on 0800 555111.

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Story of three trees shows how life in the village has changed

A centrepiece of the village in Edwardian times.

By the 1960s the Three Trees were considered a traffic hazard.

Boughing out - the historic trees are chopped up in 1972.

THEY say every picture tells a story, so three pictures should be ample to tell the story of the three trees of Whittington.

by Toby Neal

They were a feature of the village scene for many generations, but nobody younger than their 40s will remember them today, although the Three Trees name still remains locally.

Let's start at the beginning. They were planted, so the story goes, to commemorate victory at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. Our first photo shows them as a fine feature in the village, probably in Edwardian times when. The black and white building outside which there are a huddle of people housed the post office.

Things were very different by the time of our second photo, which dates from April 1966. At this time the main A5 road went through the village, with the A495 to Oswestry forking off to the left. The three trees were increasingly considered as a traffic hazard.

And so we come to our last photo, which shows how things ended.

It was taken on December 4, 1972, and we can quote from the original caption: "Three elm trees planted to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 have been felled by Mr Elwyn Tudor to help make safe a road junction at Whittington, near Oswestry. Parish councillors were worried about the number of accidents at the junction, and experts were called in and found one of the trees had elm disease."

Even if there had been a local desire to retain the trees, it seems likely they would have all fallen victim to Dutch Elm Disease which was beginning to get a grip at that time. Today the layout has changed so radically that casual passersby might have difficulty finding the spot, although the buildings are still there. Essentially, the old A5 is now blocked off. The three trees have become one tree.

This is (we imagine) the whitebeam planted at the spot by Women's Institute members in 1994 to mark the 75th anniversary of their national federation.

NEWS in brief

Messy family fun at town church

CHILDREN attending a village church near Oswestry will be forgiven for leaving it in a mess later this month.

All Saints Church at Trefonen will be staging a 'messy church' family fun day on October 27. Craft, drama, music and food will be available from 4pm to 6pm.

There will be a messy church event every fourth Saturday in the future, organisers have said. Each session will conclude with a meal. There is no charge but donations are welcome.

All children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Contest tips on managing money

YOUNG people across Mid Wales with bright ideas on how to manage money are being encouraged to get involved in this year's Lloyds TSB's Money for Life Challenge.

The UK-wide competition helps young people improve money management skills and awards grants to run a money management activity. Visit *www.moneyforlifechallenge.org.uk*

Chimney blaze

FIREFIGHTERS were called out to a chimney fire in Oswestry. A crew from Oswestry was sent to a property in Racecourse Road, Whitwell Lane, on Friday at 10.22pm. It was under control by 11.13pm.

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Nine of the UK's best loved charities have come together to pay for a limited number of Wills, for people aged 55 and over.

After you have remembered family and friends, we encourage you to take this chance to include a gift to charity in your Will. It costs you nothing in your lifetime - but will make a difference to generations to come.

Call one of the solicitors below today to make an appointment. The solicitor will advise you about the best way to include a gift to charity. Please mention Free Wills Month when you call.

Appointments are allocated 'first come, first served' - so don't delay!

Make your appointment - Call today!

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For more about the charities: www.freewillsmonth.org.uk

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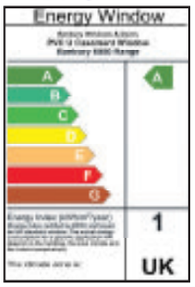

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THE ARTS 01691 668094

Gallery reveals its exhibition winners

Clive Wilson, left, with Qube Open Art Competition People's Choice winner Keith Maiden.

Roger Lunt, left, from Morris Marshall and Poole presents the prize to winner Damon Morris with his artwork 'Diamond Jubilee' in the background .

by Graham Breeze

WINNERS of the Qube Gallery's open art exhibition have been announced.

The annual competition attracted a variety of entries from artists who submitted work on the theme of 'celebrate'.

The selected entries make up the exhibition which went on show in the gallery in Oswald Road, Oswestry.

The £1,000 prize for the winner selected by the Qube Open Arts judging panel was Damon Morris with 'Diamond Jubilee'.

This prize was sponsored by Morris Marshall and Poole auctioneers. Meanwhile Keith Maiden was the winner of the People's Choice Prize with his artwork entitled 'Gimme Shelter – No job, no home, no prospects . . . nothing to celebrate'.

"The competition brought in some great work and we were delighted by the number of votes that the public cast for the People's Choice Prize," said Charlotte Jackson, Arts Co-ordinator at Qube.

"Keith Maiden, the winner of this prize has won exhibition space at Qube in 2013 and we are looking forward to an exhibition of his work."

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GIG GUIDE 01691 668094

Music fans set to be spoilt for choice

GIG GUIDE with Chrissy Symmons

SKA, drumming and jingles will be performed in various venues across Oswestry and Welshpool this week.

Music fans are spoilt for choice over the next seven days and can take their pick from a range of different performances.

It all starts in The Ironworks tomorrow night (Friday) with a gig by Bishop Castle's four-piece band Fight The Bear. The lads have created three albums and have seen their sounds broadcast on Radio One and BBC Introducing.

Fight the Bear will be supported by Thin Vision, also from Bishop Castle. The four teenagers were last seen at the venue when they supported American band OPM, of Heaven is a Half-pipe fame.

The group describes itself as a ska-based young band and consists of Harry, Ollie Farr on guitar and vocals, bass player Joe Colvin and Jordan Williams on drums. The lads have been together since 2010 and play and write their own tracks.

The night kicks off at 9pm and costs £3. Following the huge success of last Friday's free night at Oak Live in Welshpool there's more entertainment on offer this week. Brian Copsey, described as the 'smoothest vocalist this side of Smoothesville' will be appearing at the town centre hotel.

Thin Vision, who will be appearing at The Ironworks.

Rosemary Squires is on her 60th anniversary tour and will be playing a matinee concert at Welshpool Town Hall tomorrow.

Hailed as the Queen of the Jingles she will perform a selection of songs spanning her career along with humorous anecdotes. Following the concert she will join the audience for a cup of tea and cake.

Tickets are £6 or £4 for concessions from Welshpool Jewellers, Flaunt It in Cumberland Place Welshpool or the Tourist Information Centre Mile End Oswestry. It starts at 2pm with doors opening at 1.30pm.

Friday night near Welshpool the guitarist Chris Quinn will be playing acoustic music at Lowfield Inn, in Marton. The Shrewsbury-based musician has toured and played at many events and venues including the BB Kings Blues Club in New York, the 2010 Cambridge Folk Festival and gigging across the USA and Europe.

Friday night is a free event.

If you've ever fancied singing in The Ironworks then get down there on Saturday night at 9pm for Karaoke and Cocktails. It is a free night.

On Monday from 7.30pm The Ironworks will be hosting Seckou Keita who is on his Miro Tour in 2012.

He has been drumming in concerts all over Southern Senegal since the age of 10. He now has an international career. Tickets cost £10-£12.

For more information visit *http://the-ironworks.co.uk*

New Year's Eve Menu

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Roast Chicory & Shallot Tart Tatin
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trio of strawberry and chocolate dessert, chocolate cigar

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Join the party to see in the New Year from 11.30pm

The Conservatory Opens 7.30pm

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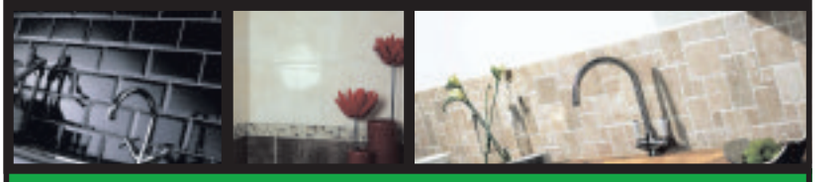

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Our cameraman took to the skies to capture this shot of Welshpool town centre. *Picture: Andy Cunningham.*

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Beautiful Bentley has it all under soft roof

The Bentley Continental offers plenty of comfort with a raft of safety features

IF CARS are your thing and you have got over £150,000 to spend I recommend you step out to buy the recently launched new star from Bentley – the stunning six litre Continental Convertible GTC.

I'm often asked, after over 30 years as a motoring journalist, to name the best car I have driven. The competition has been fierce and the decision has always been based on type and sector.

But no longer. There is now no hesitation. This Bentley has everything that a true car lover could desire even if it isn't most practical car on the road and is really little more than a 2+2.

DRIVE TIME with Graham Breeze

Bentley claim their design and engineering teams have improved virtually every aspect of the iconic convertible with an uncompromising focus on quality building on the success of the W12 GT.

This Bentley is the car of dreams with a truly muscular presence and a stance which attracts looks from those normally not remotely interested in cars.

Aluminium front wings have been produced without welds or seams creating the look and feel of a coachbuilt car.

The GTC stands on standard 20" wheels reinforcing the distinctive, sporting stance of the new Bentley.

The convertible features a new hand-crafted cabin, with soft-touch leather hides, an extensive range of wood veneers, cool-touch metals and deep-pile carpets.

Comfortable

There are 17 standard soft-touch colours with six colour split combinations, complemented by a range of seven veneers, meaning there is something for every taste.

Innovative features such as touch-screen infotainment, automatic seat-belt presenters and a Bentley-designed neck warmer for comfortable roof-down motoring are nice touches too.

Bentley's all-wheel drive system features a new 40:60 rear torque bias minimising understeer and is combined with a more powerful 6.0-litre, twin-turbocharged W12 engine as well as a new QuickShift transmission.

Top speed is an incredible 195mph with 0-60mph in 4.5secs and 0-100mph in 10.9secs. Impressive figures with the car able to run on E85 biofuel, petrol or a combination of the two.

For the safety conscious there are five airbags, including a driver's kneebag, as standard and a Roll Over Protection System (ROPS) installed beneath the rear headrests.

If the car's onboard computer senses that the car is about to roll during an accident, two reinforced steel hoops are deployed in a split second, thereby working in conjunction with the exceptionally strong windshield frame to protect passengers in the front and rear.

It's difficult to think of any and genuine rivals out there to the GTC which means demand will be high and re-sale values should be pretty good too.

The downside of course is that running costs are high. You'll be spending plenty of time on the garage forecourt and you'll also need somewhere safe to park on a regular basis, because not only is this model a beast to park it also attracts a lot of uninvited attention from the public.

Best part for me is the brilliantly folding roof which takes less than 10 seconds to disappear seamlessly.

Worst part the cost: The test model sells at £166,380 when you add extras like heated steering wheel, emblem stitching, TV, red brake callipers and boot carpet.

You can't help feeling those things should be standard.

The all-wheel drive, 6-litre engine has a top speed of 195 mph with 0-60 in 4.5secs

"Best part for me is the brilliantly folding roof which takes less than 10 seconds to disappear seamlessly."

Lots of leather in the handmade cabin

BUMPER TO BUMPER

Bentley Continental
Model: Six litre GTC
Price: From £149,350
Top speed: 195mph
0-60mph: 4.5secs
Combined fuel: 17.1mpg
CO2 emissions: 384g/km

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2009 59 NISSAN NOTE 1.6 Auto 5-dr. 1 owner, 24,000 miles £6999

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2009 59 **FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC** 5-door. 1 owner, Metallic Blue, 9,000 miles, manual ..... SOLD
2009 59 **FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC 5-door.** Avalon Blue Metallic, 14,000 miles, 1 owner £7999
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2009 59 **KIA CEED 1.6 LS** 5-door Diesel. Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owners £8499
2009 59 **KIA SOUL 2 1.6** 5-dr. 1 owner, Metallic Silver, 12,000 miles £8499
2007 07 **LANDROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.6 V8 HSE** Diesel Auto. Top spec, Metallic Silver, leather, only 31,000 miles £25,999
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2005 05 **VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 LIFE** 5-door. 59,000 miles, Black ..... SOLD
2009 09 **VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTi DESIGN 150bhp**, Metallic Black, 49,000 miles, 7 seater ..... SOLD
2002 02 **VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 CLUB** 53,000 miles, Metallic Blue ..... SOLD
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2009 59 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 HATCHBACK 5-door. Metallic Red, 24,000 miles, 1 owner DUE IN

2009 59 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE EXTREME 5-door. Metallic Blue, 9,000 miles, 1 owner £7299

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Funeral director chooses Vauxhall Sports Tourer

Two 62-plate registered Vauxhall Insignia two-litre Sri 4x4 Sports Tourers have been bought from award-winning Vauxhall dealers Arthurs of Oswestry by local funeral directors.

W. E. Price, whose Oswestry premises are less than half a mile from the Vauxhall dealership, will have one of the Insignia's based in Oswestry and the other in Llanfyllin where they incorporate I. Jackson & Sons.

Support

Arthurs managing director Nigel Williams said they were pleased to support local business.

"The Vauxhall business team, who are keen to grow sales of cars to businesses in the local community, also gave their support to the purchase.

"We are being more proactive in contacting local businesses and we have had a great amount of success this year," said Mr. Williams.

Arthurs of Oswestry sales executive Craig Huxley (centre) hands over the keys of the two Vauxhall Insignias to (from left) Andrew Hughes, Rob Hughes, Phil Ellis and Gary Ellis

"This order is further evidence of that success.

"The Insignia is a really nice specification and very suitable for their job."

The Insignias are the first Vauxhalls in the W. E. Price and I. Jackson & Sons fleet of funeral cars and were chosen after an evaluation of a number of multi-purpose vehicles.

Business partners Phil Ellis and Rob Hughes said: "We were very impressed with the whole package – the for-wheel drive, the size and attractiveness of the Insignia. The way it drives and looks fits our needs perfectly.

Dealer's big order for Mokka

Award-winning Vauxhall dealers Arthurs of Oswestry and Newtown announce that they have ordered 35 new Mokka SUVs which are expected to arrive in February for the next new registration in March.

"We see this as a phenomenally good model which will fill a gap in the existing Vauxhall range," said Arthurs managing director Nigel Williams.

"The Mokka will be very suitable for the local area of Newtown and Oswestry.

"We have also ordered two demonstrators of this exciting new model and have started to take advance orders."

He said WhatCar? recently joined Vauxhall engineers in Germany to test prototypes of the new Mokka SUV and drove the turbo-charged 138bhp 1.4 litre petrol four-wheel drive version.

"This sends all the power to the front wheels in normal conditions, but transfers up to 50 per cent to the rear wheels when extra traction is needed," said Mr. Williams.

"A more fuel efficient front-wheel-drive version will also be available from launch."

He said WhatCar? found that even with the added weight – 65kg – of four-wheel drive, the engine offered 'lively acceleration and good in-gear flexibility.' They said suspension was 'well set up' and body movements were 'tightly controlled.'

WhatCar? concluded that even at this early stage it was clear that the Mokka had the potential to be one of the better small SUVs.

Nigel Williams

Porsche insists the Cayenne S Diesel is the only V8 SUV to offer stop-start technology

Cayenne S Diesel delivers top torque and fuel saving

Porsche has announced a new Cayenne S Diesel, which brings huge torque figures and very reasonable fuel economy.

The 4.2-litre V8 engine produces 376bhp, but more importantly 627lb.ft of torque – more than double what a standard Porsche 911 produces. It's enough to power the SUV behemoth from rest to 62mph in just 5.7 seconds.

Its top speed is 157mph, and thanks to a stop-start system, its CO2 output is officially rated at only 218g/km.

Porsche claims the Cayenne S Diesel is the only V8 diesel SUV in the world to have stop-start technology.

Fuel consumption tested on the standard combined cycle reaches 34mpg, which, when combined with the S Diesel's 100-litre fuel tank means that a total of up to 745 miles is possible between fill-ups.

This new performance diesel is styled to look very much the same as the petrol Cayenne S. It's also fitted with a sophisticated tracking system, equivalent to Thatcham category five level.

Standard equipment includes Porsche Traction Management (PTM) all-wheel drive, which aims to provide a rear-wheel-drive feel but with the traction advantages of four driven wheels.

Buyers will also get a leather interior, dual-zone automatic climate control, front and rear parking sensors, cruise control, an audio system operated through a seven-inch touch-screen, eight-way powered adjustment for the front seats, 18-inch alloy wheels and a three-year warranty.

Prices will start at £58,243 when the model goes on sale in early 2013.

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06 SUZUKI JIMNY 4x4 ..... £5325
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MG Motor UK's Approved Used Car Programme includes a 130-point check on every car

MG used car programme offers a range of benefits

MG Motor UK is launching its first Approved Used Car Programme with a comprehensive range of benefits for customers, including a 130-point check on every car.

Used examples of the award-winning MG6 GT and MG6 Magnettes will be covered by the scheme with prices starting from £9,995.00. The programme covers all trim levels and will offer customers the opportunity to join the modern MG family with a fully checked used car.

Customers will also benefit from a complimentary seven-day drive-away insurance and every car sold under the MG Approved Used Car Programme will have an HPI check and a certificate to verify the car's mileage. Every car will have a full main dealer service history and a stamped service book will be handed to the customer on delivery of the car.

Richard Bourton, MG's business and used car sales manager, said: "Initially most of the cars in the programme will be less than a year old and with a reasonable mileage. They will be great buys for people wanting to get into an MG6 and the cars will still have the balance of the original warranty, AA European Breakdown Assistance, and the higher spec models will have lifelong subscription to Traffic Master."

The MG6 GT was launched in May 2011 and the four-door Magnette sports saloon was launched in July 2011. Both cars were designed and engineered at the MG Birmingham site where final assembly also takes place.

Latest V12 engine just one of Aston Martin's upgrades

The new Aston Martin DB9 features improvements on the inside and out and is available to order now

The luxury sports car maker Aston Martin has announced a series of upgrades on its DB9 model for the 2013 model year, as well as a streamlining of the range.

With the recently announced Vanquish sitting at the top of the range, the Virage model is discontinued, while the DB9 benefits from some key elements of that car alongside significant changes.

Visually the DB9 has the 'light catcher' feature running along the sills and a wider front grille, plus bi-xenon headlights with LED side repeaters mounted in the side strakes.

Careful configuration of the grille and bumper arrangement has also improved the DB9's pedestrian impact performance without affecting its appearance.

On the inside there are new trim options including the leather 'welt' feature and a leather headliner, optional lightweight sports seats and features such as automatic lights and wipers and satellite navigation are all standard.

Mechanically the changes are even more significant with the 2013 DB9 gaining the latest generation 6.0-litre V12 engine that appears in the Vanquish, here tuned to deliver 510bhp, 40bhp more than the outgoing version.

As a part of the pedestrian impact changes, the engine is also mounted lower in the car, which should benefit its centre of gravity.

To rein in the extra power, all DB9s now have carbon ceramic brakes as standard, which saves 12.5 kg in weight and also improves stopping power.

The Adaptive Damping System has been enhanced too, with Normal, Sport and Track modes to suit all conditions.

The 2013 Aston Martin DB9 is available to order now with cars available in the UK from October. Prices start at £131,995 for the coupe.

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FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC AVALON 9,650 miles, '09' £7,999
FOCUS 1.6 TDCi TITANIUM ESTATE Moondust, £30 RFL '58' £9,499
FOCUS 1.8 GHIA ESTATE Moondust '06' £5,299
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FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5 Door, Ink Blue, City, '12' £12,499
FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5 Door, Colorado Red, City, '12' £11,899
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FUSION 1.4 TDCi ZETEC Moondust, 14,150 miles, '10' £8,499
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SPORT

Bright is in seventh heaven for Oswestry

SCOTT BRIGHT was in seventh heaven as Oswestry Lions recorded an incredible 8-4 win at Meole Brace in the Mercian League division one.

The striker bagged seven of his side's goals, defender Matty Williams getting the other, as Lions made it three wins in a row.

After keeper Lee Davies made one early save, the Lions went ahead when Gary Windsor set up Bright to volley his first and he was soon to double his account from 25 yards after a poor kick from the home keeper.

Bright then completed his hat-trick when finishing off a move that was started by keeper Davies.

There was still time for the visitors to score twice more before half-time, first Bright playing a great one-two with Ben Williams and smashing home his fourth and Matty Williams fired home a sweet left foot shot following a Gary Windsor corner.

The second half started in similar fashion to the first and on 56 minutes Dylan Ellis set up Bright for his fifth goal of the game.

The home side managed to pull one back but Bright netted his sixth goal from inside the box.

Meole then scored their second from the spot, but Bright scored again, also from the spot, for an amazing individual seven-goal haul.

The hosts managed to score two more consolation goals but the game had been wrapped up long before by the Lions who this Saturday bid to maintain the momentum at Clee Hill.

Maximum effort from tennis pairs

OSWESTRY Tennis Club took maximum points for the first time this season from their second away fixture of the season at Whitchurch.

They were lucky with the weather as it had threatened rain all day but managed to complete all the rubbers despite a sharp downpour.

Both first pair of Judy Lloyd and Gary Edwards and second pair of Carol Slater and Keith Grice won their opening rubbers convincingly in straight sets without the loss of a game.

In the reverse rubbers Lloyd and Edwards again won in straight sets 6-2, 6-4, but Slater and Grice were made to work a lot harder when they were taken to a third set tie-break before claiming victory 5-7, 7-5, 1-0 (10-1). This was a pleasing result against a strong side and the team's first maximum points win

The club held their finals day recently when members were playing to become singles champion.

Throughout the season a "ladder" competition was held where members play other members of the club to gain a chance to play in the final.

Gary Edwards retained his title with a straight sets win over Jamie Chaplin while Speth Cumpston won the ladies title with a straight sets win over Carol Slater.

This year's AGM with be on November 22 at 7.30pm in the clubhouse and the annual presentation evening is on Friday, November 30 at 7pm at Brooks Around The Corner.

Graham finds net to settle Morda nerves

MORDA UNITED 3 WELLINGTON AMATEURS RESERVES 1

DESPITE early supremacy Morda had just a solitary Keiron Barry goal to show for their efforts when the first half ended.

An equaliser from Andy Jones sparked the Weston Road side into action and well-worked goals from Gareth Lewis and Dan Graham saw them end up comfortable winners of the Mercian League Premier clash.

Morda dominated the early play with the defence looking solid and Steve Evans, Kevin McGarvey and Tom Coulson dominating midfield. Unfortunately the final ball to lone central striker Dan Graham was often sadly lacking in accuracy.

On 20 minutes Graham was just unable to reach a pass from McGarvey after good work by Gareth Lewis.

But within a minute, Morda went ahead in impressive fashion when Lewis and McGarvey combined to release Barry who fired home from wide on the left. Morda remained on top for the remainder of the half.

The visitors failed to threaten the home goal with their only chances coming when Jack Wilson headed wide and Rob Costello shot over the bar.

The second half saw experienced assistant referee Keith Davies exchange places with injured referee Andrew Marshall. Like Marshall, he went on to handle the game well with neither he nor Marshall needing to brandish a card of any colour.

Graham had an early second half chance to extend the Morda lead but failed to beat the keeper in a one-on-one. He then had a shot blocked after a smart interception by McGarvey.

The visitors equalised against the run of play when Jones escaped his defender to fire home. In a shaky spell for Morda, Amateurs' Costello then had a shot bravely blocked by Coulson.

United regained the lead when a superb long cross from substitute Gary Meredith was headed home by Lewis.

Their nerves were finally settled when an accurate corner from Shin Miah was flicked on by Coulson at the near post to Graham, who found the net neatly.

Though still in mid-table, Morda are just four points behind leaders Hodnet and have played two fewer games.

Next Saturday Morda break their run of home fixtures with a journey to Church Stretton Town.

United's reserves hope that their first home game for several weeks will enable them to bounce back from last weekend's 11-1 defeat away at Wroxeter Rovers in Division One. The kick- off at Weston Road will be at 3pm.

Ludlow blast Oswestry with five-goal second half salvo

Oswestry 2 Ludlow 6

OSWESTRY'S second game of the West Midlands Two ended in defeat at The Marches School.

Oswestry started the game well but the possession was all Ludlow's with both sides creating early chances but with no outcome.

It was midway through the first half when the deadlock was broken when Ludlow scored from a short corner that was tapped in after a good save from Oswestry's goalkeeper.

Shortly after the goal, Ludlow were on the attack again and soon found the goal after a mix-up in Oswestry's defence.

But it wasn't long until Oswestry were back in the game, after some good quality passing from the back all the way through to the forwards, and it fell to John Chapell to slot it home for Oswestry.

Pressure

The second half came and sadly for the home side it was all Ludlow.

Oswestry rarely saw the ball and when they did it was only briefly.

And the continued pressure that Ludlow applied soon showed when the visitors scored another five goals.

With Oswestry's heads dropping, some brilliant solo play from James Ducksbury down the right hand side caught Ludlow out a couple of times but with no outcome.

Late on Oswestry found themselves attacking forward with Charles Evans finding Jody Wilson in the D, to score Oswestry's second goal of the game.

Oswestry are to play Newtown next Saturday at The Marches School at 12 noon.

HOCKEY by Charles Evans

Lloyd hits form again for honour

KEVIN LLOYD (12) continued his sparkling form, returning 41 net stableford points to take top honours in the October Stableford at Lakeside.

Close behind, another man in improving form was Andrew Wyatt (14) with a fine 40 points. Jamie Davies (13) claiming third with a level par 36-point return.

The net results replicated the gross division with all three winners securing the same positions.

The commencement of this year's nine-hole, 26-week Winter League also commenced at the weekend with another fine field of competitors determined to get their endeavours off to a flying start.

Past captain Brad Willetts (13) showed everyone a clean pair of heels, returning a fantastic net 21 stableford points. Runner-up and third place was decided on countback with Leon Duvalier (15) just edging past ladies captain Sandra Davies.

Final triumph for Welshpool ladies

WELSHPOOL Golf Club ladies section completed a very successful league season at the weekend by winning their final match in the MWGA scratch league 2-1 at home to Borth & Ynglas.

This follows a triumphant conclusion to the MWCGA handicap league, which the ladies won for the third time in five years, having been in the finals for the past five successive seasons.

Ellen Jones completed a clean sweep in the ladies Pat Annison (scratch) and Terry Edwards (handicap) knock-out competitions, beating Margaret Bowen in both finals.

Jayne Mitchell and Sylvia Ryder renewed their foursome partnership to qualify to represent the club in the Daily Mail foursomes competition which starts next year.

The juniors 12-hole Winter league started lastSaturday and will take place every alternate Saturday and Sunday, teeing off at 2pm.

All juniors members are welcome to enter.

Results: Turkey Trail (October 6) – 1 Dave Pretty 64, 2 Mike Preece 64, 3 Ian Spencer 64, 4 Dave Jones 64.

Turkey Trail (October 7) – 1 Peter Brooks 43 pts, 2 Nick Roberts 43 pts, 3 Chris Hughes 39 pts, 4 Dale Hardy 38 pts.

Hang on tight – the Welshpool ladies defence was stretched to the limit when they found runaway leaders Penalta too hot to handle as they slipped to a 51-0 loss in their WRU League Division Three clash.

Downes' sending off proves to be decisive as match is lost

Hope Valley 20 Oswestry II 10

OSWESTRY allowed the match to get away from them after being reduced to 14 men with the sending off of Dale Downes.

The young lock had already spent 10 minutes in the sin-bin for a first-half offence when he was deemed by the referee to have kneed a Hope Valley opponent in the head and shown a second yellow card.

The Eagles 2nd XV, who were level at 10-10 at this point, dwelt on the decision and some hard running from the opposition pack led to a score to the left of the uprights.

Oswestry followed this up by gifting Valley kickable opportunities, one of which they took to win 20-10.

The Raging Bull North West League Division Three South match started brightly for the borderers, playing downhill after losing the toss.

Luca Owen-Youens' pinpoint kick-off set the tone as they attempted to make the most of the favourable conditions.

Emerging back-rower Ivor Hughes was able to put on the pressure and give Oswestry the territory they commanded for much of the first half.

From the off, Hope Valley were reluctant to run the ball away from danger, instead opting to kick to touch.

The Oswestry back three of Harry Treasure, Jamie Luckett and Jake Williams were in no mood to allow such conservative tactics to take hold in the match and returned each kick with aplomb.

This display of power, precision and conviction could only be denied for so long and after interplay between young fly-half Owen-Youens and debutant centre Kevin Davies broke the defensive line.

They freed Jamie Luckett to score the game's opening try in the left-hand corner. Owen-Youens added the conversion.

The shock of this opening salvo spurred the Peak District side into action.

Allowing their forwards more of the ball, they gained some good ground with pick-and-goes from the base before their fly-half kicked to the corners.

The Eagles seemed to abandon the good work created in training and conceded a quick succession of penalties, gifting three points to the opposition and forcing Downes into a 10-minute rest for his first yellow card offence.

Oswestry battled manfully in spite of the deficit in personnel but some weak tackling allowed Hope a converted score under the posts.

As the half wore on, the small pitch seemed to shrink with Hope seemingly content to play a tight game that they were well-suited to.

Unfortunately, talismanic tighthead Rich Mcfie, nursing an injury from his heroics for the first team last week, was forced off with a rib injury.

Luckily, Oswestry could bring on the effervescent Steve Jarvis whose encouragement and force of will helped shore up the Eagles defensive line, meaning Hope were to only see three points during Downes' enforced absence.

Back to a full compliment, Oswestry saw out the half deep in Hope territory thanks to great kicking out of hand from young starlet Owen-Youens.

The Eagles regrettably did not turn pressure into a much-needed try and had to make do with a penalty to see out the half with honours even.

Regrouping at half-time the Eagles knew they had the win in them if they could cut out poor decision-making in key areas.

It turns out this was easier said than done as laziness at the breakdown put Oswestry on the back-foot.

Deciding to take a quick tap penalty, Hope made good yards down the Oswestry flank and, after a few phases of concerted effort from both sides the referee blew his whistle for a call that perplexed both teams – the second yellow for Downes.

The Eagles were unable to pick themselves up after that blow and Hope Valley saw out the win.

PLACINGS

Mercian League

Premier division: Ketley Bank Utd 2, Weston Rhyn 0; Morda Utd 3, Wellington Amateurs Reserves 1; Shifnal '97 3, Hodnet 0; Telford Juniors 2, Allscott 2; Whitchurch Alport 1, AFC Ludlow 2.

Division one: Brown Clee 2, Bishop's Castle Town 3; Hopesgate 1, Rock Rovers 9; Ketley Town 5, Madeley sports 1; Meole Brace 4, OswestryLions 8; Prees 10, Clee Hill 2; Shawbury Utd Reserves 0, Oswestry Boys Club 5; Wroxeter Rovers 11, Morda Utd Reserves 1.

Division two: AFC Wellington 1, Oakengates Rangers 1; Athletico Broseley 1, Childs Ercall 1; Highley Miners Welfare 0, Impact Utd 2; Market Drayton Tigers 5, Albrighton Juniors 0; Randlay 2012 3, Edgmond Rangers 1; Spalaig Britannia 0, Claverley 11.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
FC Hodnet	9	5	2	15	9	17
Church Stretton	9	5	2	18	15	17
Oakengates Ath	8	5	2	19	10	16
AFC Ludlow	7	5	1	19	11	16
Telford Juniors	7	4	0	14	8	15
Allscott	8	4	3	21	15	13
Shifnal United 97	9	3	4	14	14	11
Morda United	7	4	2	15	10	9
Ketley Bank Utd	9	2	6	12	21	7
Dawley Town	4	1	2	4	9	4
Whitchurch Alp Rs	7	1	5	9	16	4
Wellington Am Rs	8	1	6	11	22	4
Weston Rhyn	8	1	6	7	18	4

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Madeley Sports	10	9	1	43	10	27
Ketley Town	9	8	1	54	12	24
Prees	8	6	2	32	14	18
Oswestry Lions	8	6	2	27	18	18
Rock Rovers	8	5	1	40	17	17
Bishop's Castle	8	5	1	25	12	17
Brown Clee	9	4	4	21	18	13
Oswestry Boys Clb	9	4	4	20	17	13
Wroxeter Rovers	7	3	4	21	17	9
Clee Hill	8	2	5	18	33	7
Morda Utd Rs	8	2	5	13	35	7
Hopesgate Utd	8	2	6	20	37	6
Wrock Wood Jnrs	6	1	5	10	38	3
Shawbury Utd Rs	10	1	9	7	40	3
Meole Brace	8	0	8	8	41	0

DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Oakengates Rngrs	10	8	1	37	12	25
Mkt Drayton Tigers	9	7	1	26	8	22
Childs Ercall	8	6	1	45	10	19
Athletico Broseley	9	6	2	38	17	19
AFC Wellington	8	6	1	34	17	19
Claverley	9	6	3	43	14	18
Randlay 2012	8	4	3	25	19	13
Wrock Wood	7	4	3	23	13	12
Impact	9	4	5	18	26	12
Edgmond Rangers	8	3	4	26	14	10
Donnington S&S	8	3	4	18	20	10
Madeley Sports Rs	8	2	6	10	28	6
Highley Miners Wlf	9	2	7	14	39	6
Spalaig Britannia	10	2	8	13	60	6
Albrighton Juniors	7	1	6	6	25	3
Denso	9	0	9	4	58	0

Spar Mid Wales League

Division one: Aberystwyth Uni 3, Dolgellau 0; Bow Street 4, Berriew 1; Dyffryn Banw 3, Welshpool 1.

Division two: Bont 4, Llanfyllin 2; Kerry 2, Talgarth 1; Hay St Mary's 2, Rhosgoch 5; Llandrindod Wells 3, Aberdyfi 0; Llanfair Utd 1, Knighton 0.

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Four Crosses	7	5	0	22	8	17
Aberaeron	7	5	0	16	2	17
Llanidloes	7	5	1	33	8	16
Berriew	9	4	2	24	12	15
Waterloo	7	4	2	20	19	13
Bow Street	8	3	2	23	20	12
Builth Wells	7	3	2	15	18	11
Tywyn/Bryncrug	5	3	2	13	9	9
Montgomery	5	2	1	9	5	8
Newbridge	6	2	3	13	14	7
Carno	7	2	4	12	14	7
Welshpool	8	2	6	14	30	6
Llansanffraid	7	1	4	16	19	5
Aber Uni	1	1	0	3	0	3
Dyffryn Banw	8	1	7	11	38	3
Dolgellau	9	1	8	9	37	3

DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Llanfair Utd	6	6	0	17	2	18
Llandrindod Wells	5	5	1	16	3	15
Hay St Marys	7	4	1	30	17	14
Rhosgoch	8	3	2	24	18	12
Kerry	7	3	3	10	12	10
Talgarth	7	2	3	15	15	8
Aberdyfi	7	2	3	17	23	8
Presteigne	3	2	0	13	6	7
Abermule	7	2	4	14	22	7
Bont	6	2	4	12	27	6
Llanfyllin	5	0	3	8	16	2
Knighton	4	0	3	4	8	1
Machynlleth	5	0	4	7	18	1

West Midlands Regional League

DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Wem Town	10	8	0	2	16	24
AFC Smethwick	9	7	1	1	30	22
Bilston Town (2007)	8	7	1	0	11	22
Mahal	9	6	1	2	12	19
Wyrley	12	6	1	5	5	19
Stone Alleynians	9	5	3	1	4	18
Haughmond	10	5	1	4	13	16
Hanwood Utd	9	5	0	4	4	15
Trysull	9	4	3	2	3	15
AFC Wombourne	9	5	0	4	2	15
W'Ton United	10	3	2	5	-12	11
Bridgnorth Town Rs	10	3	0	7	-7	9
Warstone Wndrs	8	3	0	5	-7	9
Penncroft	9	2	2	5	0	8
St Martins	9	2	1	6	-17	7
Shenstone Pthfndrs	9	1	2	6	-10	5
Blackheath Town	11	1	1	9	-25	4
Leominster Town	8	0	3	5	-22	3

DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Gornal Athletic Rs	8	6	1	1	16	19
Newport Town	8	5	2	1	10	17
Mahal Rs	8	5	1	2	12	16
Team Dudley	10	5	1	4	11	16
Ledbury Town	9	4	3	2	14	15
Sikh Hunters	7	5	0	2	5	15
Bartestree	10	4	3	3	0	15
Penkridge Town	7	4	2	1	18	14
Wrens Nest	9	4	2	3	12	14
Riverway	10	3	4	3	-1	13
Red Star Alma	7	4	0	3	2	12
Tenbury Utd	10	3	2	5	-10	11
Hereford Lads	5	2	3	0	5	9
W'Ton Sporting Rs	10	2	0	8	-35	6
Ettingshall Pk Farm	9	1	2	6	-10	5
Malvern Rangers	8	0	2	6	-13	2
Malvern Town Rs	9	0	2	7	-36	2

Roche North Shropshire Sunday League

The Keys 2, Cross Foxes 1; Oswestry Bell 5, Dudleston Heath 3; Plough 0, Iron Works 3; The Oak 4, Athletico Market 0.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
The Keys	5	4	1	17	8	12
Malpas	5	4	1	21	13	12
Oswestry Bell	4	3	0	18	8	10
Cross Foxes	5	2	1	20	13	8
Athletico Market	6	2	2	14	14	8
The Oak	6	2	4	17	25	6
Ironworks	5	2	3	11	20	6
Dudleston Heath	5	2	3	19	16	6
Black Lion	4	1	2	13	16	4
The Plough	5	0	5	4	21	0

SPORT

Power's plan to boost bid for a win

MID WALES racing driver Ben Power heads to South Wales this weekend, looking to record his first race win at the Pembrey circuit.

Power, aged 22, from Guilsfield, near Welshpool, now lies third in the UK Legends Car Championship, but is aiming to regain second position in the table with victory at the Llanelli track.

"We've now won our first races in Legends, and Pembrey is one of my favourite tracks, so I'm confident we can win on Welsh soil," he said.

In the last weekend's races at Croft in North Yorkshire, Power finished second in all three races on the Saturday, and achieved two fastest laps – missing out on the lap record by just 0.2 seconds.

The Sunday was less successful – he was taken out in race one, but recovered to move up from 21st to 10th. He was then sixth in race two and fourth in race three.

The results saw him drop from second to third in the table, but with four rounds remaining – two at Pembrey this weekend (October 13 and 14) and the final two at Brands Hatch in November – there are still plenty of points to be won.

"One of the good things about the Croft weekend was that it gave us a chance to get the wet-weather set-up just right," said Power.

Famous

"I haven't had much experience of driving these cars in the wet, but now we will be much better placed if we get weather at Pembrey."

The UK Legends series visits tracks in England, Wales and Scotland, including famous circuits such as Brands Hatch and Silverstone.

It features top drivers from around the UK and the continent.

Legends racing originated on the US oval tracks, and the cars have an American look, being 5/8-scale replicas of classic US models. Guttercrest Racing runs a Ford Coupe 1937 replica, with a 1250cc Yamaha motorcycle engine.

With identical cars and the fastest drivers having to start at the back of the grid, there is said to be more overtaking in a single Legends race than in a whole season of Formula 1.

Pool get that sinking feeling after defeat

FOOTBALL
by John Bridgwater

WELSHPOOL TOWN were sucked back towards the basement stragglers in the Spar Mid Wales League division one after succumbing 3-1 at basement side Dyffryn Banw.

Bryn Jones gave Banw the lead, Jack Williams levelled before the break for the Lilywhites, but a second half brace from Rhodri Davies gave Banw their first league win of the campaign.

Victory lifted Banw off the foot of the table on goal difference while Pool, despite 12th in the table, are now only three points above the bottom club, Dolgellau.

Aberystwyth University opened with a comfortable 3-0 home win against struggling Dolgellau, Gareth Thomas scoring twice, including a penalty while left-back Dave Williams also found the net.

With several of the top teams on Welsh Cup duty, **BERRIEW** missed a chance of closing the gap when they went down to their third defeat of the season after losing 4-1 at Bow Street.

LLANFAIR United continue to sit pretty at the top of the Spar Mid Wales League division two but were made to battle all the way before winning 1-0 at home to lowly Knighton Town.

The leaders struggled to get into their stride in the first half.

But they upped their game after the break as Steve Andrew bagged the only goal on 70 minutes after a Rob Bennett corner had hit the woodwork.

"We weren't at our best, but some days you get that," said manager Rhys Stephens.

"But we were a lot better in the second half and the important thing was that we picked up three points."

Llandrindod Wells kept up the pressure in second spot with a 3-0 home win over Aberdyfi that sees them trail then pacesetters by just three points.

At the other end of the table, **LLANFYLLIN** find themselves third from bottom after slipping to a 4-2 loss at Bont while **KERRY** were 2-1 home winners over Talgarth to climb up to fifth spot.

Basement side Machynlleth's home clash with **ABERMULE** was postponed.

Rivals can't be separated and share spoils in thriller

IT WAS honours even as Welshpool finished all square 17-17 with local rivals Newtown in a finely balanced Welsh League division three (north) encounter at Maesydre.

RUGBY
by John Bridgwater

The first meeting between the sides for several seasons saw the lead change hands on a number of occasions in front of a healthy crowd, but neither side were able to bag that decisive score to ensure the bragging rights.

Two points apiece would be a satisfactory return for both teams, which would consolidate their position in the top half of the table.

Welshpool are now preparing two games on their travels to Anglesey (at Benllech and Holyhead) as they bid to build on an encouraging start to the campaign that has seen two wins, a draw and one defeat.

Responded

Daley Jones gave the Maesydre side the lead with a penalty but Newtown responded in kind with a penalty from fly-half Rowan Meek before going ahead with a touchdown from full-back Ian Watt, converted by Meek.

A second penalty from Jones reduced the arrears midway through the half before, 10 minutes from half-time, the home side got their noses in front with a try from second row Dan Stanley which went unconverted.

Leading 11-10 at the break, Pool extended the margin with another penalty from Jones who then missed a couple of other efforts to have put more daylight between his side and the visitors.

Newtown bounced back with a converted try when No.8 Andy Marriott crashed through some weak tackling to touch down, Meek again converting.

Pool were not to be denied and earned parity with another Jones penalty but, despite a late spell of pressure close to the line, victory proved elusive.

The result means that Pool are fifth in the table, four points off the pace and two points adrift of Newtown in third spot.

They will have high hopes of continuing their encouraging start in the next few weeks against sides in the lower reaches of the table, although games against Benllech and Holyhead mean a trek to Anglesey.

Up and at 'em – there's a battle in the line-out as Welshpool and Newtown battle it out as Measydre

PLACINGS

Stonehouse Brewery Oswestry Dominoes League

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Black Lion A	2	2	0	8	4	4
Station	2	1	0	9	3	3
White Lion	2	1	0	9	3	3
Bell	2	1	0	8	4	3
Cross Keys	2	1	0	8	4	3
Top White Lion	2	1	0	7	5	3
Pias Yn Dinas	2	1	1	7	5	2
Black Lion B	2	1	1	6	6	2
Penybont Inn	2	0	0	6	6	2
Horseshoe	2	0	1	5	7	1
Railway Inn	2	0	1	5	7	1
Blackhorse	2	0	1	4	8	1
Plough	2	0	2	1	11	0
Royal Hill	2	0	2	1	11	0

Bell 3, Top White Lion 3; Black Lion B 4, Horseshoe 2; White Lion 6, Plough 0; Station 3, Railway 3; Royal Hill 1, Cross Keys 5; Pias Yn Dinas 2, Black Lion A 4; Penybont 3, Black Horse 3.

Shropshire Junior League

UNDER 14 LEAGUE

POOL A

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Recycles Cougars	2	2	0	22	12	10
Telford Aristocrats	2	2	0	21	11	10
Wenlock White Lt	2	1	1	27	13	7
Tibberton Tigers	2	1	1	19	18	7
Oswestry Bobcats	2	1	1	17	17	5
Baschurch Stars	2	0	2	13	21	3
Bridgnorth Incas	2	0	2	7	34	0

POOL C

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Firey Flames	2	2	0	42	4	10
SNC Storm	1	1	0	12	3	5
Bridgnorth Aztecs	1	1	0	14	8	5
Recycles Jaguars	2	1	1	9	20	5
Oswestry Ospreys	2	0	2	10	38	1
Drayton	2	0	2	5	19	0

DIVISION 4

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Hotshot Mightysh	1	1	0	23	3	5
Tibberton Terrors	1	1	0	11	4	5
SNC Blizzard	1	1	0	11	4	5
Severn Gems	1	1	0	5	2	5
Tibberton Tazers	1	0	1	2	5	0
Telford Meerkats	1	0	1	4	11	0
Recycles Tigers	1	0	1	4	11	0
Oswestry Redsox	1	0	1	3	23	0

UNDER 16 LEAGUE

CUP 1B

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Recycles II	2	2	0	66	49	10
Severn Gems Dmd	1	1	0	21	19	5
Tibberton Torpedos	2	0	2	49	61	3
Oswestry Ninjas	1	0	1	19	26	1

COBRA get the point of losing

COBRA's challenge at the top of the Welsh League division two (north) was dented when they found themselves edged out 18-17 at promotion rivals Llandudno.

Their second defeat of the season leaves the Meifod men six points adrift of leaders Denbigh and three behind last Saturday's conquerors Llandudno, so they will be anxious to bounce back at home to Rhyl on Saturday.

They can ill afford another defeat, but can take heart from picking up a losing point last week as they bid to hang on to the coat tails of their rivals.

The damage was done in the first half as COBRA found themselves 18-0 down at the interval, their cause not being helped by a succession of sin-binnings which effectively meant they played 20 minutes with 13 players.

But they battled back in the second period with centre Iwan Vaughan and No.8 Aled Davies both crossing the line, with Llew Williams converting both as well as landing a penalty.

Williams missed four tricky penalty opportunities while the Llanfair Caereinion side piled out the pressure at the end, but their efforts fell just short.

Action from the 17-17 draw between Newtown at Welshpool

The Welshpool defence hangs on as Newtown go on the attack

New look for Oswestry

Pictured (from left) Ian Roome (director of Sewprint), Graham Fox, Oswestry skipper, Angela Roome (director of Sewprint) and Steve Charmley, Oswestry RFC chairman

OSWESTRY Rugby Club are being sponsored this year by local leisurewear supplier Sewprint.

Sewprint, based at the Fort in Park Hall, are supplying the new kit and are also supplying the online shop.

Club Chairman Steve Charmley said "We are delighted to link up with Sewprint, the club has a real opportunity to create income from this deal. The club has spent a lot of time during the summer doing a rebranding exercise, and we hope to announce a number of new sponsors."

Ian and Angela Roome Directors of Sewprint added: "We are proud to be associated with the club, we want to allow the club to prosper from our relationship. We have been amazed how much volunteer time goes into the club, and the community spirit really impressed us, it's that spirit which made the club attractive for us as a sponsor.."

Ellis takes top prize after pole is dancing

WESTON POOLS ROUND-UP

Once again Ian Ellis was the winner from peg 29, catching on pole and feeder pellet/maggot F1s and roach.

He landed just a just a few more F1s to beat John into second place catching on feeder and maggot/corn on peg 26 for 36-12.

1 Ian Ellis (Tri-cast Weston) peg 29 F1s roach 42-02, 2 John Oliver (Tri-cast Weston) peg 26 F1s 36-12, 3 Arther Wood (Tri-cast Weston) peg 22 F1,s carp 28-11, 4 Graham Thomas (Deggys) peg 12 F1,2 carp 26-12

Weston Open Tuesday 2nd October 17 anglers

Airbus angler Andy Amos took the lead in match, fishing short pole on corn/pellet catching carp barbel tench for 99-08 of peg 48 canal. On the same pool peg 42 Mike Philbin fished long pole

On pellet/maggot catching carp to 4lbs and barbel for 85-14

1 Andy Amos (Airbus Chester) peg 48 canal short pole & margins corn/pellet barbel crucian carp 99-08, 2 Mike Philbin(Tri-cast Weston) peg 42 canal long pole pellet carp barbel F1,s tench 85-04, 3 Jamie Hughes (Maver) peg 12 Belvidere 10mt pole carp barbel F1,s 78-00, 4 Brian Travis (Total Angling) 67-08

Over 55,s Wednesday 3rd October 34 anglers

Les Picken (Connahs Quay) won off peg 20 on canal on both method feeder and pole catching on corn/maggot/pellet, carp barbel F1,s for 81-06, ahead of Rob Smith Rod & Reel who scaled 66-00 off peg 12 Belvidere carp barbel to 5lbs.

1 Les Picken (Connahs Quay) peg 20 canal pole feeder maggot/corn carp F1s tench 81-06, 2 Rob Smith (Rod & Reel) peg 12 Belvidere 10mt pole maggot/pellet carp barbel F1,s 66-00, 3 Steve Norman (Connahs Quay) peg 4 canal short pole corn/maggot F1,s carp barbel 68-00, 4 Phil Conde (tri-cast Weston) peg 18 canal pole carp barbel F1s 54-15

Barbel

Over 55,s Friday 5th October 17 anglers

Rod & Gun angler Mel Kitson led the field off peg 22 on Belvidere fishing margins with corn/pellet & maggot on pole with 56-02 ahead of John Dixon who fished peg 10 to weigh 44-04.

1 Mel Kitson (Rod & Gun) peg 22 Belvidere pellet/maggot carp barbel F1s 56-02, 2 John Dixon (Tri-cast Weston) peg 10 Belvidere corn/maggot margins short pole F1,s carp barbel 44-04, 3 Ray Perrin (tri-cast Weston) peg 27 Belvidere corn/maggot margins short pole carp F1,s barbel 41-05, 4 Mike William (Church Stretton) peg 8 Belvidere pellet/maggot 8mt pole F1,s carp barbel 40-07

Weston Open Saturday 6th October 18 anglers

Robbi won with a convincing lead off peg 7 Stretton carp barbel and F1s on corn pellet on 10mt pole.

1 Robbie Griffiths (Matrix Baits) peg 7 Stretton pellet/maggot carp F1,s barbel 89-02, 2 Mike Philbin (Tri-cast Weston) peg 9 Stretton corn margins pellet carp tench barbel 53-06, 3 Andrew Rowbottom (ABC Bait Club) peg 16 Weir pellet/maggot carp tench 52-12, 4 Jason Lewis (Tri-cast Weston) peg 14 Stretton tip corn pole pellet carp barbel 52-04

Weston Open Sunday 7th October 26 anglers

1st Mark Plevin (Tri-cast Weston) peg 25 Belvidere 95-09, 2 Les Picken peg 48 canal 68-06, 3 Bob Parrish (tri-cast Weston) peg 20 Belvidere 63-08, 4 Chris Lewis (Tackle Locker) peg 42 canal 62-04, 5 Mike Philbin (Tri-cast Weston) peg 22 Belvidere 61-12, 6 Ian Leach peg 18 Belvidere 49-13

SPORT

Slick Saints do like to be beside the Quay side

GAP CONNAH'S QUAY 1 THE NEW SAINTS 3

THE NEW SAINTS returned to the top of the Welsh Premier after reeling off a third straight win when downing spirited newcomers Connah's Quay at the Deeside Stadium.

Having lost pole position the night before to Bangor City, the defending champions made sure they returned to the summit on goal difference courtesy of a first half own goal from Danny Dobbins and second half efforts from Mike Wilde and Aeron Edwards.

Victory was slightly tarnished as the Saints conceded a reply from defender Michael Robinson deep into injury time, and director of football Craig Harrison admitted it was a disappointing way to finish.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game but the lads kept going and for most part played well," he said. "We had a sloppy 20-minute spell in the second half but the third goal killed the game off.

"The disappointing thing was that we conceded a sloppy goal at the end and some of the heads are down in the dressing room because we pride ourselves in keeping clean sheets."

The Saints made the early running and should have been ahead on 10 minutes when Mike Wilde steered his low shot inches past the post after latching onto Alex Darlington's through ball.

Wilde continued to be in the heart of the action with strong runs into the box that kept the home back line on their toes, while defender Steve Evans planted a firm header over the bar from a 13th minute corner as TNS looked the more inventive.

The Oswestry men got their noses in front in the 17th minute when Chris Seargent curled a teasing free-kick into the box, and the ball flew into the net off the head of Dobbins under pressure from Steve Evans.

Moments later, Wilde just failed to get onto another inviting cross from Darlington from the right with the home defence again at full stretch. Aeron Edwards also shot harmlessly over while Evans was off-target from close range after the hosts had failed to clear a free-kick.

GAP had their moments, Dean Canning seeing a shot saved by keeper Paul Harrison on the half-hour, Craig Jones fired just wide while Canning failed to seriously test Harrison in goal after being released by Ricky Evans' fine pass.

After the break, Wilde went close to a second when denied by the legs of keeper John Rushton from six yards but GAP, who pushed three men up front, came more into the game with a couple of dangerous crosses skidding across the Saints' goalmouth.

However, the visitors settled again when Wilde was rewarded for his efforts midway through the second half with a well-placed header at the far post after Sergeant had crossed deep from the left.

Kai Edwards then saw a diving header blocked by Rushton from a Chris Jones right wing corner as the Saints pressed, and substitute Ryan Fraughan curled a 80th minute free-kick just past the left post.

Moments later, Edwards cut in from the left but saw his rising drive tipped away, but was not to be denied four minutes from time as he latched onto a through ball before neatly lobbing keeper Rushton from the edge of the box into the top of the net.

GAP gained a late consolation when defender Michael Robinson volleyed in from eight yards after the visitors had failed to deal with a free-kick.

Llanrhaeadr made to battle to keep place in Welsh Cup

FOOTBALL
by John Bridgwater

LLANRHAEADR booked their place in the last 32 of the Welsh Cup - but were made to battle all the way before seeing off Glan Conwy 2-1 following extra time.

Although not at their best in the first round tie, the Cymru Alliance side did enough to keep their flag flying thanks to goals from Rob Fox and Tom Evans after the visitors had responded from the penalty spot.

"We were not at our most fluent and lacked a bit of quality but the key thing was that we were solid defensively and we felt that if we didn't make any mistakes we would get through," said manager Dan Stevens.

"We knew that Glan Conwy would come here and look to make it tough for us as it was their cup final against a team from the Cymru Alliance.

"There weren't a lot of chances in the game, but we just about did enough and we're glad to be in the last 32 as the Welsh Cup is a welcome distraction from the league."

Setback

The villagers, who will be out to continue the upward trend in the Cymru Alliance when they host Rhydymwyn on Saturday, suffered a setback in the week when they lost keeper Lee Davies with an ankle ligaments injury that could keep him out for at least another fortnight.

But deputy Connor Lee, who stepped up from the reserves, turned in a solid display in goal although he did to have too much to do in a tight encounter.

After a goalless first half, Llanrhaeadr took the lead midway through the second period when Kady Seabrook's free kick was parried by the keeper and as it looped up in the air, Rob Fox headed in his third goal in as many games.

The hosts, however, were pegged back when they conceded a sloppy penalty following a foul in the box but they ensured there would be no surprises as they bagged the winner in the first five minutes of extra time as Matt Jones drove into the box before crossing for Evans to fire in a goal that guaranteed the hosts at least £750.

Stan's net gain for Whittington Cricket Club

Whittington Cricket Club have been given a sponsership boost thanks to Stans Superstore, St Martins. The cheque will be equally devided between the new mobile cricket nets and the upgrade of the bowling green. The Committee wish to thank Mr A Faulks and Stans for their continued support of the club. Pictured (left to right): Mervyn Davies (committee), Julian Turner (chairman) , Andrew Faulks (representing Stans Superstore), Mike Brunt (secretary), Charlie Higgin (first team captian), Graham Humphreys (treasurer), John Hughes (committee)

Shock troops hand out a hammering

JUBILANT Waterloo Rovers pulled off the shock of the day in the Welsh Cup as they thrashed higher league visitors Rhydymwyn 5-1 in the first round.

Despite going a goal behind early on, the Spar Mid Wales League hosts hit back with Charlie Proctor firing a hat-trick and Chris Proctor and Steve Laws also found the net, while the Cymru Alliance visitors also finished the game with 10 men to add to their woes.

FOUR CROSSES saw their hopes of a place in the last 32 dashed as they were edged out 2-1 at home to Llanrug United.

The visitors started off brightly and took the lead, but Nick Popyk's side were back on terms early in the second half through Elliott Howes.

However, a mix-up moments later saw Llanrug regain the advantage and there was no way back for Four Crosses despite hitting the post and bar.

MONTGOMERY progressed but only after a penalty shootout after finishing 1-1 at Venture Community. They won the spot-kick decider 5-2.

LLANSANTFFRAID Village were downed 6-2 at Cymru Alliance outfit Holyhead Hotspur while Llanidloes Town's trip to Halkyn United was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

Goals in each half from Christian Jones and Tom Rowlands gave Rhayader Town a 2-0 passage against Risca United, while Presteigne went out 2-0 a home to Penrhyncoch

Neil Mitchell headed the winner in the dying moments as Caersws came through a tough tie 2-1 at Coedpoeth, with Rob Evans levelling after the Wrexham hosts, who were later reduced to 10 men, took an early lead with a 25-yarder.

Leaders held in goal-fest

HIGH-FLYING Llanrhaeadr reserves dropped their first points of the season in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division one after being held 4-4 at Trefonen.

After eight straight wins, the league leaders were kept in check by goals from Lee Morris (2), Owen Davies and Shaun Graham, while Andrew Vaughan and Mike Roberts responded with a brace apiece.

Despite the draw, they still lead by seven points from Waterloo Reserves who moved second with a 1-0 success at Llanfechain.

Bettws are bottom of the table after slumping 5-0 at home to Meifod, Josh Davies and Phil Hughes both scoring twice.

Llandrinio hit the goal trail in the Mitsubishi division two as they thrashed Waterloo Colts 11-1 with four goals apiece from Luke Weaver and Tom Pritchard.

Meanwhile, Guilsfield reserves kept their flag flying in the Llansantffraid Village Cup with a 2-1 win at Abermule reserves in the first round, Rob McGill and Wil Morgan on target while Matt Jones responded.

Guilsfield made to pay for sloppiness

GUILSFIELD'S hopes of progressing in the Welsh Cup were dashed as they were edged out 3-2 at Cymru Alliance rivals Flint Town United despite a spirited showing in their first round tie.

It was always going to be a tough task for the Guils but they stuck their task manfully despite twice going behind to sloppy goals at the start of each half.

Both times they hit back to level, defender James Henderson bagging the first equaliser with a header and Will Thomas a stunning second, but Flint just about shaded the tie to book their ticket for the last 32.

"We competed well, did okay in one of the toughest ties we could have had, but gave some poor goals away," said boss Russell Cadwallader.

The Guils would have been disappointed to concede at the start of each half. The first was a free header, but they levelled when a Thomas free-kick rattled the bar and Henderson nodded in the loose ball.

Thomas went close to a second and Ben White struck the bar but, after being 1-1 at half-time, they were breached a second time soon after the interval when they failed to clear their lines.

Again they hit back when a short corner from Ian Probert found Thomas who cut inside before rifling a 20-yard shot into the net.

Decisive

However, it was Flint who struck a decisive third goal when, from a long cross, their forward got on the wrong side of midfielder Nathan Leonard to find the net.

Guilsfield return to Cymru Alliance duty on Saturday with a tricky home encounter against in-form Caersws who, lying third, have won their last six outings.

"After three away games it's nice to be back home," said Cadwallader, who has a full 16-man squad at his disposal.

LATEST FROM THE JUNIOR FOOTBALL SCENE

LLANYMYNECH

Under 8's
Llanymynech 3 Shrewsbury Juniors 8

Llanymynech found a strong Shrewsbury Juniors side as their opponents this week and put in a good display scoring three great goals but in the end the visitors were too strong.

The goals came from Jac Herbert (2) and Coran Green.

Under 9's
Llanymynech 6 Shrewsbury Up and Comer Eagles 3

Another great performance from the Under 9's winning 6-3 against a strong Shrewsbury side. The goals came from Josh Wynne (5) and Oliver Cox. Man of the Match went to Josh Wynne.

Under 10's
Llanymynech 0 Wothen Juniors 2

Llanymynech hosted Worthen in a good competitive match played in a good spirit by both teams. Worthen started strongly with the majority of possession but it was Llanymynech who created the best chance of the game when Will Morris shot wide following a fine pass from Alfie Lloyd. Man of the match Daniel Edwards put in a strong defensive display for the home team but could do nothing about the visitors opening goal which came from a penalty following a hand ball in the box. Llanymynech tried hard to respond in an end to end second half but it was Worthen who sealed the win with a second goal late on to run out 2-0 winners.

Under 11's
Llanymynech 0 Meole Brace 1

This was a hard fought game the lads did everything but find the net. Charlie Wines pulled off a fabulous save late on in the second half to keep Llanymynech in contention but the equalising goal never came.

Man of the Match went to Paul Negri for another fine display in midfield.

Under 13 Dragons Shrewsbury up and Comer Eagles 14 Llanymynech 1 (League Cup)

Llanymynech travelled to face a strong Shrewsbury team who finished mid table in the A league last season and Llanymynech found the going tough, they did however get a consolation goal.

Under 13 Lions
Llanymynech 3 Shrewsbury Juniors 2

Llanymynech started the stronger with a chance in the first few seconds however Shrewsbury quickly got into the game and were 1-0 after 8 minutes a lead that became 2-0 on 20 minutes.

It could have been even worse for the home side if not for a couple of excellent saves by Ewan James. Llanymynech however dug deep and the introduction of Ellis Griffith brought fresh impetuous to the home side who scored via Xavie Clarke free-kick.

Llanymynech had the momentum in the second half and even though they were making chances they had failed to convert any and time was running out, Shrewsbury were also looking dangerous on the break and the fourth goal was going to be key, it went Llanymynech's way when pressure in the Shrewsbury box finally told and Harry Garthwaite rifled a shot in off the under side of the bar.

Llanymynech were now on top and a long clearance from Ewan James in the Llanymynech goal was flicked on and Harry Garthwaite found the net to make it 3-2.

Under 16's
Bayston Hill 42 Llanymynech 2

Llanymynech were up against a good Bayston Hill side a task made even harder when due to unavailability and injury they were only able to field 10 players. This Llanymynech side however dig deep and made a real game of it eventually loosing 4-2.

Llanymynech goals came from their Man of the Match Dan Lightwood.

OSWESTRY

Under 8
Shawbury 1 Oswestry U8's Lions 16

Oswestry travelled to Shawbury for the second away game of the season and took an early lead through joint goalscorer Ben Frost, within minutes Sam Owen doubled the advantage to 2-0.

This led the way to Oswestry finding there scoring boots and at half time it was 9-0 to the visitors. The second half started the same way as the first half had ended with Joseph Davies scoring the first of the second half.

Oakley Taylor, joint top goalscorer, came out of goal and netted himself a hat-trick, Shawbury where awarded a last minute penalty for a hand ball which they scored to bring the final result to 16-1 to the visitors.

Under 9
Market Drayton 2 Oswestry Tigers U9 7

The Tigers travelled to there furthest away fixture this week and were a goal down after 10 seconds with the home team stunning the visitors early on.

The game was then played in the Market Drayton half with the Tigers pushing for an equaliser which came through a Max Thomas shot.

This spurred the Tigers on and another great effort from Charlie Morris put the Tigers 2-1 up amd it was Morris again who made the scoreline 3-1 shortly afterwards.

Several changes where made at half time and this did not alter the way the game was going, the Tigers further increased their lead when Sam Wall scrambled an effort in at the back post. The opposing team got a goal back from a corner,but not to be outdone the Tigers increased the lead when Max Thomas scored with another fantastic effort and Thomas completed his hat trick soon after.

Morris capped of a fine display from midfield by scoring his third to complete another great team performance as the game finished with the Tigers running out convincing winners 7-2.

Oswestry Under 11 Up & Comers Eagles 1 Oswestry Boys Club 9

Another strong footballing display from the team with the scorers Sam Norwood, 2 Huw France, 2 Tom Ellis, 2 Frank Jones, Lloyd Evans & Lewis Stewart.

Keys move to the top of the table

The Keys 2 Cross Foxes 1

The Keys moved to the top of the North Shropshire Sunday League table with victory in the close fought local derby by the odd goal in three. Brian Wood put the Keys ahead after 8 minutes and went 2-0 up when Ryan Leightwood added a second after 15 minutes. Cross Foxes pulled a goal back by Mike Jones after 28 minutes, despite constant pressure in the last 20 minutes by the Foxes the Keys held out, which sends them above Malpas in the league table on goal differance

Oswestry Bell 5 Dudleston Heath 3

Despite playing with 10 men unbeaten Oswestry Bell were able to record a victory over Dudleston which moves them to third in the league table. A penalty from Jack Harris gave The Bell an early lead followed shortly afterwards by a goal from Matty Jones. Guy Guildford pulled a goal back for Dudleston but Matty Jones scored again for the Bell with Guildford again replying to give The Bell a 3-2 half-time lead. Jack Harris increased The Bell's lead with a free kick with a goal early in the second half and Matty Jones completed his hat-trick for The Bell. Guy Guildford found the net late on to complete a hat-trick for Dudleston.

Plough 0 Iron Works 3

Iron Works recorded there second victory of the season against bottom of the league The Plough. After a goalless first half Lee Baran gave the Ironworks the lead early in the second half. Two late goals from Sam Sefton the second coming in injury time sealed the victory for the Ironworks.

The Oak 4 Athletico Market 0

Last season's champions The Oak got back to winning ways after a disappointing start to the season with a victory over Athletico Market. Goals from Todd Roberts, David Hartshorn, penalty and Zac Manhire gave the Oak a 3-0 half- time lead. Alex Gunn scored the Oaks fourth goal with a penalty that had to be taken four times and resulted with an Athletico Market player being sent off.

SPORT

Net gain
Cricketers given sponsor boost
Page 47

Girl power
Women's rugby in the spotlight
Page 45

OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01952 241473 www.oswestrychronicle.com

Welshpool Ladies rugby side pose for a team picture before their game against WRU League Division Three leaders Penalta. To find out how they got on turn to page 45.

Eagles out to break their duck

OSWESTRY'S rugby players bid to chalk up three wins in a row on Saturday when they make their first trip of the season to the Isle of Man, ***writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.***

Lying fifth in the table after last week's 11-try 67-0 demolition of depleted Ramsey, the Eagles take to the air this weekend when they fly out from Liverpool airport to take on Vagabonds who are one place above.

It promises to be a far sterner test for the border men, who have found victories on the Isle of Man hard to come by. In fact, they are yet to win on their travels over the water.

But, after a solid start, they will be hoping to keep up the winning run to cement their position in the top half of the table.

After being denied promotion last term, the Eagles are aiming to build this year, and have so far won three matches, lost two and drawn one as they look to bring on several youngsters to the team.

Handful

Vagabonds have a similar record to Oswestry and are certain to prove a handful on home soil.

"Our record is not good in the Isle of Man, and I'm not going to tempt fate and say that we're going to break our duck there on Saturday," said chairman Steve Charmley.

"It's a long haul, and a long day for the players, but we can go there in good heart after last Saturday."

Oswestry make three trips to the Isle of Man during the season. As well as Vagabonds, they visit Douglas and have a return trip to Ramsey, which they will certainly be looking forward to after running out emphatic winners against their visitors last week.

Wing Rob Masson, who scored two tries in last Saturday's big victory, is now back on rugby league duty and is unlikely to feature again this season for the Eagles.

Waterloo fancy a Cup upset

WATERLOO ROVERS will be savouring the chance of another Welsh Cup upset after being drawn at home to Cymru Alliance high-fliers Rhyl in one of the standout second round ties.

Dale Roberts' Spar Mid Wales League side shocked Rhydymwyn 5-1 in the first round last Saturday, and will hope to make it a big occasion when they entertain the fancied Seasiders on Saturday, November 10.

There could be another intriguing tie on the cards with Spar title-chasers Llanidloes Town set for a home clash against local rivals Caersws if they can overcome Halkyn United in their delayed first round tie on Saturday.

The two Powys sides have met before in the cup, with Caersws taking the local bragging rights on home soil in the most recent meeting.

Llanrhaeadr, who look upon the Welsh Cup as a welcome distraction, have been drawn at home to Llanrug United, who were 2-1 conquerors of Four Crosses in the last round. Rhayader Town face a tricky trip to take on Swansea club West End while Cefn Druids head to neighbours Brymbo.

Full second row draw: Llanhaeadr v Llanrug United, Holywell Town v Llandudno Town, Brymbo v Cefn Druids, Halkyn United/Llanidloes Town v Caersws, Conwy Borough v Buckley Town, Corwen v Gwalchmai, Waterloo Rovers v Rhyl, Holyhead Hotspur v Pwllheli, Flint Town United v Greenfield, Montgomery Town v Llandudno Junction, Penrhyncoch v Barry Town, Newbridge v Monmouth Town, Aberdare Town v Tata Steel, Caerau/Llantwit Fadre v Goytre, Pontardawe Town v Dinas Powys/Ton Pentre, Goytre United v Caerau Ely, Chepstow Town v Grange Quins, Cambrian & Clydach v Haverfordwest County, West End v Rhayader Town, Ely Rangers v Aberbargoed Buds. Ties to be played on Saturday, November 10.

Quick exit for Mere managers

MIDLAND ALLIANCE strugglers Ellesmere Rangers have parted company with management duo Richard Brown and Richard Gardner.

The decision was reached following a committee meeting in the wake of Saturday's 4-1 defeat at league leaders Stratford Town.

That made it 15 games without a win in all competitions and Ellesmere officials are hoping to move swiftly to have a new man in place in time for this weekend's home clash with Boldmere.

"We felt we had given them longer than a lot of clubs would have done to turn it around," said director of football Alan Davis.

Brown and Gardner were appointed in the summer after guiding Wellington Amateurs to the West Midlands Division One League and Cup double last season.

But they have struggled to make an impression with Ellesmere five points adrift at the foot of the table after two draws and nine defeats from their 11 league games.

They have also crashed out of the FA Cup, FA Vase and the League Cup at the opening hurdle.

Gloves role for ex-boss

GUILSFIELD reserves included a familiar face in goal as Mike Barton turned out for the team's Llansantffraid Village Cup win over Abermule reserves.

Barton was former manager of the first team in the Cymru Alliance, also managed Welshpool Town and was most recently boss at Berriew before parting company four months ago.

The ex-Newtown keeper, however, is now back at Guilsfield reserves in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League, and played in last Saturday's 2-1 cup win over Abermule reserves.

SAINTS WARNED OF ROBINS BACKLASH

CARL DARLINGTON is wary of a "wounded animal" as The New Saints bid to maintain pole position in the Welsh Premier in Saturday's home clash with Newtown at Park Hall (2.30).

The Saints look hot favourites to continue their winning run agains a Robins side who have shipped 19 goals in their last four home outings, a run that threatens to undermine their creditable start to the season.

by John Bridgwater

But the visitors have won their last two league games on their travels, and TNS head coach Darlington won't be taking anything for granted.

"Newtown have been very in-between this season, they have had had some good wins but also some poor results," he said.

"They lost 4-1 to Prestatyn last Saturday, but there is nothing worse than a wounded animal and we must make sure we are on our game.

"It is a local derby and they have some former TNS players in their ranks (including Barry Hogan, Craig Whitfield and Nicky Ward) and they will be looking to make a point.

Controlled

"We're top of the table, but only on goal difference, so we cannot afford to rest on our laurels."

TNS are going well, having won their last four outings in league and cup, with last weekend's 3-1 win at GAP Connah's Quay keeping them above Prestatyn on goal difference, while Bangor City are one point behind in third spot. However, Airbus UK are now six points adrift of the leaders in fourth.

"We played well as a team last week and at times were exceptional to watch," added Darlington.

"We controlled a lot of the game, created so many chances, but it was disappointing to concede a goal with virtually the last kick of the game.

"We said this season that the team who concedes the least amount of goals will win the league. We've still only conceded four, but the lads were down at the final whistle as they know they should have defended the set-piece better.

"We also had a sloppy 15-minute spell when GAP put three up top, but for the most part we did well with some exceptional performances."

With Greg Draper waiting in the wings and Matty Williams continuing his comeback from a knee injury, the Saints have plenty of options up front.

Newtown have suffered two heavy defeats in recent visits to Park Hall, going down 5-0 and 4-0, which followed two creditable draws.

Pool target points

WELSHPOOL Town bid to stop the rot in the Spar Mid Wales League division one when they visit Aberystwyth University on Saturday.

Despite high hopes for an improved campaign this time around, the Lilywhites were dragged towards the basement pack after last week's 3-1 loss at Dyffryn Banw.

While Banw were celebrating their first league win, it proved a disappointing outcome for Pool who, although 12th, are just three points above table-propping Dolgellau.

"We have got injuries, but there are no excuses as it was a game we should have won with the side we had out," said boss Dave Jones.

The one positive was the performance of new keeper Stewart Evans, but Pool are still short of numbers with Dave Williams and Mike Bebb both unavailable.

The Lilywhites, meanwhile, have signed central defender Ryan King, son of former Shrewsbury star Jake King, but he is still waiting on international clearance.

New look for The New Saints

Healthpoint marketing executive Bruce Lansom and chairman Bob Seddon are welcomed by Saints defender Pip Baker and chief operating officer Ian Williams

The New Saints have announced a brand-new three-year sponsorship deal with cosmetics company Healthpoint Ltd, which is worth a 'substantial' sum to the club.

The deal, which includes shirt and prime pitch-side sponsorship by Healthpoint's leading brand – Derma V10, will also see chairman, Bob Seddon, join the Saints' Board of Directors and Sales Director, Neil Lansom become vice president.

Old rivals all square

IT was honours even as Welshpool ladies drew 2-2 with their Newtown counterparts after hitting back twice in their opening North Wales Hockey League division one clash.

Cerys Bills got to the first leveller before half-time from a penalty corner and Caroline Jones pounced for a second equaliser five minutes from time.

Welshpool host local rivals Llanfair on Saturday.

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